

Montana

Basin Outlook Report

March 1, 2001



Basin Outlook Reports and Federal - State - Private Cooperative Snow Surveys

*For more water supply and resource management information, contact:
See Attached List*

How forecasts are made

Most of the annual streamflow in the Western United States originates as snowfall that has accumulated high in the mountains during winter and early spring. As the snowpack accumulates, hydrologists estimate the runoff that will occur when it melts. Predictions are based on careful measurements of snow water equivalent at selected index points. Precipitation, temperature, soil moisture and antecedent streamflow data are combined with snowpack data to prepare runoff forecasts. Streamflow forecasts are coordinated by Natural Resources Conservation Service and National Weather Service hydrologists. This report presents a comprehensive picture of water supply conditions for areas dependent upon surface runoff. It includes selected streamflow forecasts, summarized snowpack and precipitation data, reservoir storage data, and narratives describing current conditions.

Snowpack data are obtained by using a combination of manual and automated SNOTEL measurement methods. Manual readings of snow depth and water equivalent are taken at locations called snow courses on a monthly or semi-monthly schedule during the winter. In addition, snow water equivalent, precipitation and temperature are monitored on a daily basis and transmitted via meteor burst telemetry to central data collection facilities. Both monthly and daily data are used to project snowmelt runoff.

Forecast uncertainty originates from two sources: (1) uncertainty of future hydrologic and climatic conditions, and (2) error in the forecasting procedure. To express the uncertainty in the most probable forecast, four additional forecasts are provided. The actual streamflow can be expected to exceed the most probable forecast 50% of the time. Similarly, the actual streamflow volume can be expected to exceed the 90% forecast volume 90% of the time. The same is true for the 70%, 30%, and 10% forecasts. Generally, the 90% and 70% forecasts reflect drier than normal hydrologic and climatic conditions; the 30% and 10% forecasts reflect wetter than normal conditions. As the forecast season progresses, a greater portion of the future hydrologic and climatic uncertainty will become known and the additional forecasts will move closer to the most probable forecast.

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United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Bozeman, Montana

Where to Get More Information

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449-5278

Liberty County

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Lincoln County

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Mineral County

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Joe Wang
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Lorna Philp
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(over)

Pondera County

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278-3922

Powder River County

Carol Hilliard
434-2417

Powell County

Glen Green
846-1703

Prairie County

Bob Prongua
635-5381

Ravalli County

Lane Johnson
363-5010

Richland County

Dave Haverkamp
433-2103

Roosevelt County

Robert Bray
787-5232

Rosebud County

Rocky Schwagler
356-7333

Sanders County

Don Feist
826-3701

Sheridan County

Tim Solberg
765-1801

Silver Bow County

Laurel Ovitt
287-3215

Stillwater County

Philip Sandoval
322-5359

Sweet Grass County

Dan Glasgow
932-5160

Teton County

Stacy Denny-Eneboe
466-5722

Toole County

Misty Vermulm
434-5234

Treasure County

Stewart Greer
342-5510

Valley County

Denise Wiedenheft
228-4337

Wheatland County

John Oiestad
632-5534

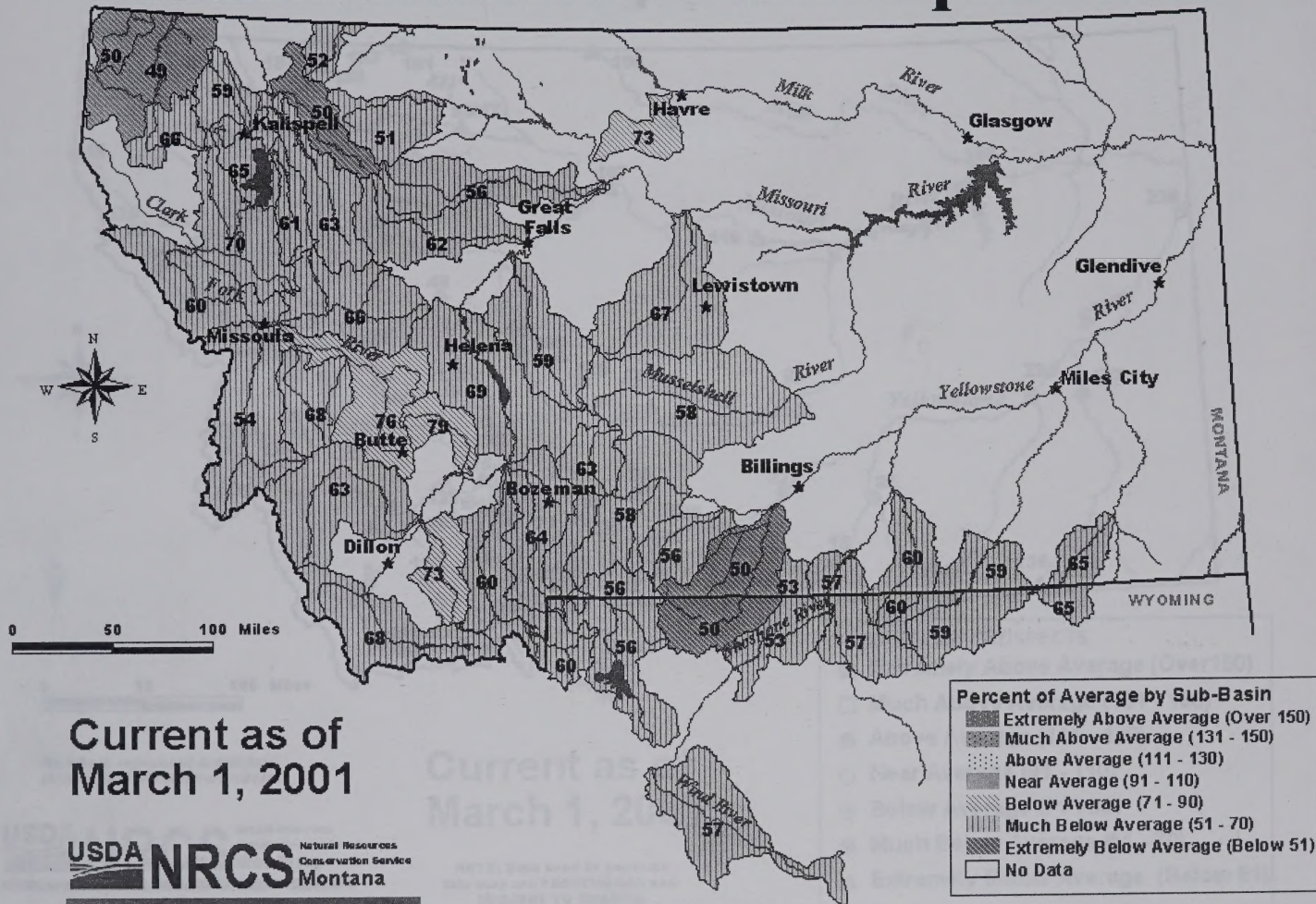
Wibaux County

Katrina Johnson
796-2211

Yellowstone County

Shad Weber
657-6135

Mountain Snow Water Equivalent



Current as of
March 1, 2001

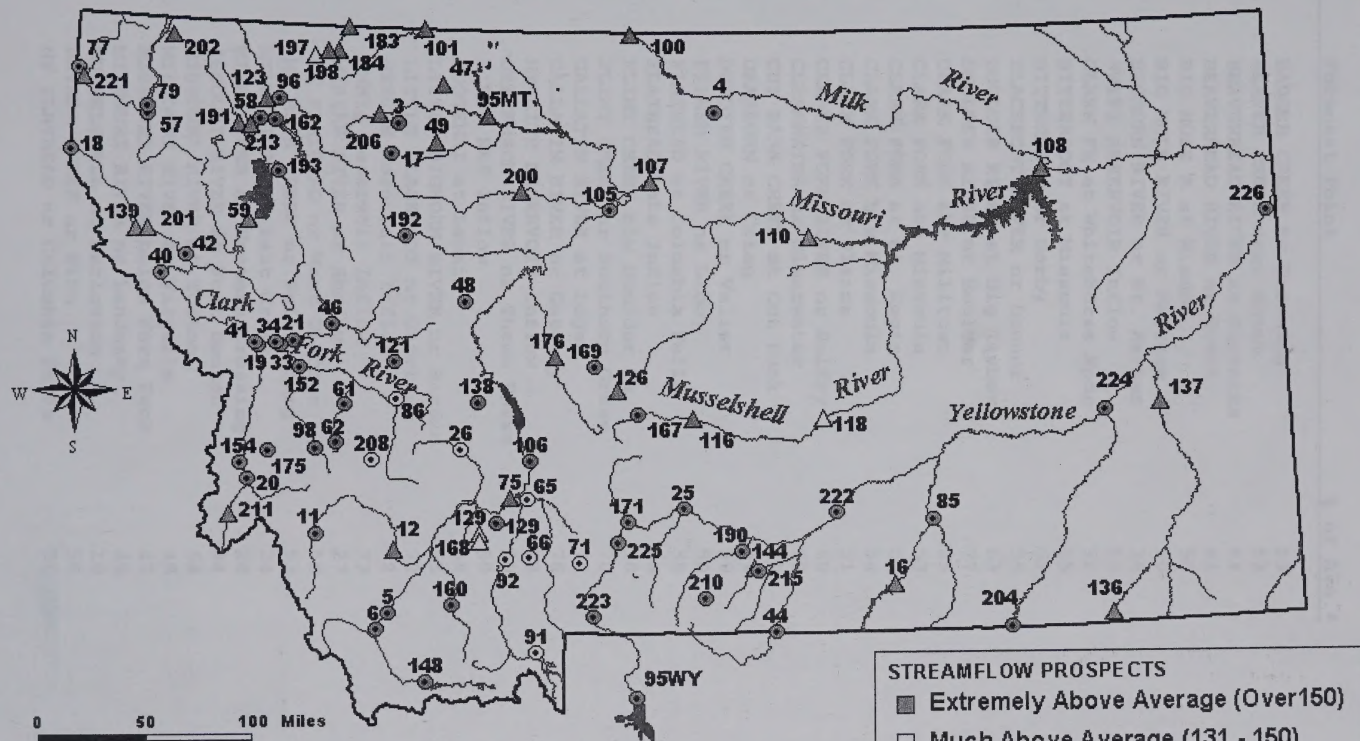
USDA NRCS Montana
Natural Resources
Conservation Service

<http://www.mt.nrcs.usda.gov>

NOTE: Data used to generate
this map are PROVISIONAL and
SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

Numbers within each sub-basin
represent the percent of average.

Streamflow Prospects for Montana



Numbers represent individual station identification numbers.

USDA NRCS Natural Resources Conservation Service
Montana

<http://www.mt.nrcs.usda.gov>

**Current as of
March 1, 2001**

NOTE: Data used to generate this map are PROVISIONAL and SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

STREAMFLOW PROSPECTS

- Extremely Above Average (Over 150)
- Much Above Average (131 - 150)
- Above Average (111 - 130)
- Near Average (91 - 110)
- ◐ Below Average (71 - 90)
- ◑ Much Below Average (51 - 70)
- ▲ Extremely Below Average (Below 51)
- △ No Data

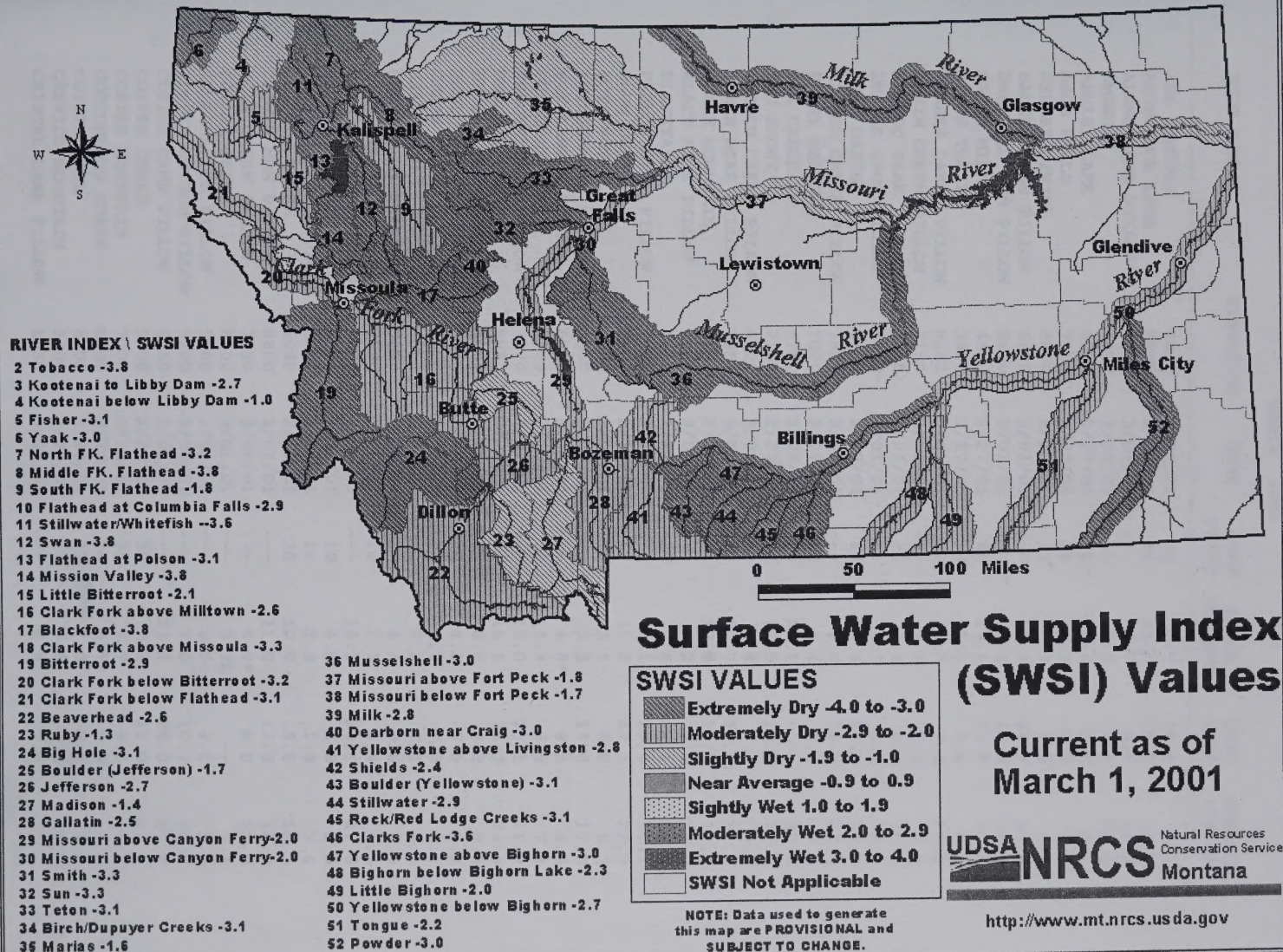
STREAMFLOW PROSPECTS MARCH 1, 2001

No	Forecast Point	% of Ave.*
3	BADGER CREEK nr Browning	53
4	BEAVER CREEK near Havre	53
5	BEAVERHEAD RIVER at Barretts	64
6	BEAVERHEAD RIVER nr Grant	64
11	BIG HOLE R at Wisdom	55
12	BIG HOLE RIVER nr Melrose	50
16	BIGHORN RIVER nr St. Xavier	36
17	SWIFT RESERVOIR Inflow	59
18	CLARK FK at Whitehorse Rpds	52
19	BITTERROOT at Missoula	55
20	BITTERROOT nr Darby	52
21	BLACKFOOT RIVER nr Bonner	54
25	BOULDER RIVER at Big Timber	63
26	BOULDER RIVER nr Boulder	77
33	CLARK FORK abv Milltown	65
34	CLARK FORK abv Missoula	53
40	CLARK FORK at St. Regis	55
41	CLARK FORK blw Missoula	54
42	CLARK FORK nr Plains	51
44	CLARKS FORK RIVER nr Belfry	60
46	CLEARWATER nr Clearwater	70
47	CUT BANK CREEK at Cut Bank	48
48	DEARBORN nr Criag	54
49	DUPUYER CREEK nr Valier	39
57	FISHER RIVER nr Libby	59
58	FLATHEAD at Columbia Falls	55
59	FLATHEAD Lake Inflow	48
61	FLINT CREEK blw Boulder Ck	70
62	FLINT CREEK nr Southern Cross	70
65	GALLATIN RIVER at Logan	74
66	GALLATIN RIVER nr Gateway	76
71	HYALITE RESERVOIR Inflow	73
75	JEFFERSON RIVER nr Three Forks	50
79	LIBBY RES Inflow	59
77	KOOTENAI at Leonia	56
85	LITTLE BIGHORN RIVER nr Hardin	55
86	LITTLE BLACKFOOT nr Garrison	72
91	HEBGEN Reservoir Inflow	72
92	ENNIS Reservoir Inflow	73
95	MARIAS RIVER nr Shelby	27
96	MF FLATHEAD nr West Glacier	58
98	MF ROCK CREEK nr Philipsburg	53
100	MILK RIVER at East Cross.	24
101	MILK RIVER at Western Crossing	24
105	ISSOURI RIVER at Fort Benton	54
106	MISSOURI RIVER at Toston	64
107	MISSOURI RIVER at Virgelle	48
108	MISSOURI RIVER below Fort Peck	47
110	MISSOURI RIVER nr Landusky	48
116	MUSSELSHELL at Harlowton	19
121	NEVADA CREEK nr Finn	58
123	NF FLATHEAD nr Columbia Falls	50

STREAMFLOW PROSPECTS MARCH 1, 2001

No	Forecast Point	% of Ave.*
126	NF MUSSELSHELL nr Delpine	44
136	POWDER RIVER at Moorehead	25
137	POWDER RIVER near Locate	21
138	PRICKLY PEAR CREEK nr Clancy	70
139	PROSPECT CREEK at Thompson Falls	39
144	COONEY RESERVOIR Inflow	50
148	LIMA RESERVOIR Inflow	67
152	ROCK CREEK nr Clinton	57
154	COMO RESERVOIR Inflow	67
160	RUBY RIVER Reservoir Inflow	68
162	HUNGRY HORSE Reservoir Inflow	56
167	SF MUSSELSHELL abv Martinsdale	51
169	SHEEP CREEK nr White Sulphur Springs	62
171	SHIELDS RIVER nr Livingston	62
175	SKALKAHO CK nr Hamilton	63
176	SMITH RIVER abv Eagle Creek	50
183	ST. MARY RIVER at US/CAN Border	46
184	ST. MARY RIVER nr Babb	47
190	STILLWATER RIVER nr Absarokee	51
191	STILLWATER nr Whitefish	32
192	GIBSON Reservoir Inflow	57
193	SWAN RIVER nr Bigfork	58
198	LAKE SHERBURNE Inflow	47
200	TETON nr Dutton	34
201	THOMPSON nr Thompson Falls	37
202	TOBACCO RIVER nr Eureka	41
204	TONGUE RIVER RESERVOIR Inflow	54
206	TWO MEDICINE RIVER nr Browning	47
208	WARM SPRINGS CK at Anaconda	79
210	MYSTIC LAKE Reservoir Inflow	61
211	WF BITTERROOT nr Conner	46
213	WHITEFISH nr Kalispell	48
215	LOWER WILLOW CK RES Inflow	59
217	WILLOW CREEK Reservoir Inflow	51
221	YAAK RIVER nr Troy	35
222	YELLOWSTONE RIVER at Billings	63
223	YELLOWSTONE RIVER at Corwin Springs	65
224	YELLOWSTONE RIVER at Miles City	54
225	YELLOWSTONE RIVER near Livingston	64
226	YELLOWSTONE RIVER nr Sidney	51
950	YELLOWSTONE at Lake Outlet	58

*Assumes average precipitation and temperatures for the period Aptil-July.



MONTANA SNOW COURSE AND SNOTEL DATA

MARCH 2001

SNOW COURSE	ELEVATION	DATE	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1961-90
ABE LINCOLN	4440	2/26/01	32	8.7	15.2	--
ABUNDANCE LAKE	8800	2/25/01	49	11.4	15.3	16.8
ALBRO LAKE PILLOW	8300	3/01/01	---	8.7	9.7	16.4
AMBROSE	6480	2/28/01	29	6.3	9.0	11.0
ASHLEY LAKE	4000	2/27/01	22	4.4	3.9	6.1
ARCH FALLS	7350	2/26/01	26	5.9	8.2	9.8
ASHLEY DIVIDE	4820	2/27/01	23	5.3	5.2	6.4
BADGER PASS PILLOW	6900	3/01/01	---	14.3*	24.2	30.8
BANFIELD MTN PILLOW	5600	3/01/01	---	9.4	15.3	17.4
BAREE MIDWAY	4600	2/27/01	56	17.1	25.5	30.5
BAREE TRAIL	3800	2/27/01	33	9.0	9.6	8.6
BARKER LAKES PILLOW	8250	3/01/01	---	8.3	7.4	12.2
BASIN CREEK PILLOW	7180	3/01/01	---	5.3	5.3	6.5
BASSOO PEAK	5150	3/01/01	31	7.4	8.4	10.0
BEAGLE SPGS PILLOW	8850	3/01/01	---	6.2	6.8	6.8
BEAR BASIN	8150	2/27/01	44	12.4	16.8	17.6
BEAVER CREEK PILLOW	7850	3/01/01	---	9.9	13.7	14.8
BERRY MEADOW	7000	2/27/01	22	4.4	4.0	6.5
BIG CREEK	6750	2/26/01	75	23.1	--	37.4
BIG SNOWY	7150	2/27/01	47	12.5	13.6	17.3
BISSON CREEK PILLOW	4920	3/01/01	---	6.8	8.2	9.7
BLACK BEAR PILLOW	7950	3/01/01	---	19.7	29.7	31.7
BLACK MOUNTAIN	7750	2/26/01	41	10.8	12.8	12.2
BLACK PINE PILLOW	7100	3/01/01	---	6.2	8.9	10.5
BLACKTAIL	5650	2/27/01	36	9.6	12.1	12.6
BLOODY DICK PILLOW	7550	3/01/01	---	5.1	10.6	10.7
BLUE LAKE	5900	2/27/01	47	11.5	17.7	22.0
BOTS SOTS	7750	2/26/01	18	3.1	6.8	6.3
BOULDER MTN PILLOW	7950	3/01/01	---	9.3	13.0	17.0
BOX CANYON PILLOW	6700	3/01/01	---	4.8*	8.8	8.8
BOXELDER CREEK	5100	2/27/01	23	4.4	5.0	7.4
BRACKETT CR PILLOW	7320	3/01/01	---	10.0	15.1	16.7
BRANHAM LAKES	8850	2/27/01	56	16.1	24.2	24.5
BRUSH CREEK TIMBER	5000	2/26/01	27	5.6	6.3	8.6
BULL MOUNTAIN	6600	2/28/01	20	4.1	5.8	5.2
CABIN CREEK	5200	3/01/01	24	5.3	7.3	6.0
CALL ROAD	8050	2/25/01	31	7.2	7.2	9.4
CALVERT CR PILLOW	6430	3/01/01	---	4.4	8.6	8.0
CAMP SENIA	7890	2/26/01	10	1.7	4.4	4.6
CARROT BASIN PILLOW	9000	3/01/01	---	14.1	20.1	22.6
CARTER CREEK	7400	2/26/01	19	4.8	4.8	3.9
CHESSMAN RESERVOIR	6200	2/23/01	15	2.9	1.4	3.4
CHICKEN CREEK	4060	2/27/01	38	10.0	15.6	14.3
CLOVER MDW PILLOW	8800	3/01/01	---	11.0	12.3	14.9
COLE CREEK PILLOW	7850	3/01/01	---	5.9*	8.0	12.9
COLLEY CREEK	6300	3/01/01	---	5.3E	--	7.1
COMBINATION PILLOW	5600	3/01/01	---	3.5	4.1	5.1
COPPER BOTTOM PILLOW	5200	3/01/01	---	7.0	10.7	10.0
COPPER CAMP PILLOW	6950	3/01/01	---	13.2	26.0	29.8
COPPER CREEK	5700	2/27/01	32	7.4	11.0	13.4
COPPER MOUNTAIN	7700	2/25/01	35	7.7	9.5	9.1
COTTONWOOD CREEK	6400	2/26/01	28	6.7	6.9	6.5
COYOTE HILL	4200	2/28/01	27	7.0	8.2	9.5
CREVICE MOUNTAIN	8400	2/27/01	27	6.6	8.6	9.0
CRYSTAL LAKE PILLOW	6050	3/01/01	---	8.9	9.0	10.7

SNOW COURSE	ELEVATION	DATE	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1961-90
DAD CREEK LAKE	8400	2/24/01	36	8.6	11.0	11.0
DAISY PEAK PILLOW	7600	3/01/01	---	4.6*	7.2	11.3
DALY CREEK PILLOW	5780	3/01/01	---	6.2	9.2	10.0
DARKHORSE LK. PILLOW	8700	3/01/01	---	13.5	25.4	27.9
DAVIS CREEK	5400	2/27/01	40	11.2	18.5	21.1
DEADMAN CR PILLOW	6450	3/01/01	---	5.5	9.8	8.6
DEADMAN CREEK	6450	2/28/01	26	5.6	--	9.6
DESERT MOUNTAIN	5600	2/27/01	35	7.6	12.1	13.2
DISCOVERY BASIN	7050	2/22/01	31	7.4	6.3	8.6
DIVIDE PILLOW	7800	3/01/01	---	8.7	6.7	8.9
DIX HILL	6400	2/25/01	32	9.0	10.8	10.7
DUPUYER CREEK PILLOW	5750	3/01/01	---	5.2	6.4	10.6
EAST FORK R.S.	5400	3/02/01	18	3.7	6.0	6.0
EL DORADO MINE	7800	2/25/01	48	9.9	12.8	16.7
ELK HORN SPRINGS	7800	2/24/01	25	5.6	7.8	7.8
ELK PEAK	8000	2/28/01	33	7.5*	8.0	13.4
EMERY CREEK PILLOW	4350	3/01/01	---	8.1	13.1	14.0
FATTY CREEK	5500	2/26/01	53	13.3	19.2	20.2
FISH CREEK	8000	2/26/01	27	6.2	7.5	7.8
FISHER CREEK PILLOW	9100	3/01/01	---	15.9*	27.8	30.3
FIVE-BULL	5700	2/28/01	17	3.4	5.2	5.8
FLATTOP MTN PILLOW	6300	3/01/01	---	18.8*	33.9	40.9
FLEECER RIDGE	7500	2/28/01	26	5.6	9.5	9.0
FOOLHEN	8280	2/25/01	36	8.8	10.8	13.8
FOUR MILE	6900	2/26/01	18	4.0	6.0	7.1
FOURTH OF JULY	3450	2/26/01	24	7.1	7.0	8.6
FREIGHT CREEK	6000	2/27/01	31	7.2	10.4	12.9
FROHNER MDWS PILLOW	6480	3/01/01	---	5.1	5.3	7.2
GARVER CREEK PILLOW	4250	3/01/01	---	4.8*	7.8	9.2
GARVER CREEK	4250	2/27/01	24	6.0	7.9	9.9
GOAT MOUNTAIN	7000	3/02/01	26	6.1	8.7	9.2
GRASSHOPPER	7000	2/28/01	17	3.4	2.5	4.9
GRAVE CRK PILLOW	4300	3/01/01	---	8.0	12.8	15.2
GRIFFIN CR DIVIDE	5150	3/01/01	29	6.8	8.0	10.0
HAND CREEK PILLOW	5030	3/01/01	---	7.1	10.3	10.9
HAWKINS LAKE PILLOW	6450	3/01/01	---	9.8*	16.5	24.2
HEBGEN DAM	6550	3/03/01	27	7.0	10.9	10.8
HELL ROARING DIVIDE	5770	2/27/01	47	13.1*	23.9	26.4
HERRIG JUNCTION	4850	2/27/01	43	11.9	21.4	21.7
HOLBROOK	4530	2/26/01	31	6.5	10.2	8.8
HOODOO BASIN PILLOW	6050	3/01/01	---	17.5	35.1	39.7
INDEPENDENCE	7850	2/27/01	32	8.8	13.0	15.6
INTERGAARD	6450	2/24/01	23	4.6	4.8	6.8
JOHNSON PARK	6450	2/28/01	19	4.4	5.6	6.4
KINGS HILL	7500	2/26/01	28	6.8	--	11.6
KISHENEHN	3890	2/27/01	22	4.8	6.9	7.5
KRAFT CREEK PILLOW	4750	3/01/01	---	10.2	13.9	14.5
LAKE CREEK	6100	2/25/01	19	3.7	6.7	7.4
LAKEVIEW CANYON	6930	2/26/01	24	4.1	6.4	9.4
LAKEVIEW RDG. PILLOW	7400	3/01/01	---	5.2	6.9	10.3
LEMHI RIDGE PILLOW	8100	3/01/01	---	7.1	7.8	8.9
LICK CREEK PILLOW	6860	3/01/01	---	5.8	7.1	10.7
LITTLE PARK	7400	2/27/01	38	9.8	13.1	13.4
LOGAN CREEK	4300	2/26/01	27	5.2	6.0	6.7
LONE MOUNTAIN PILLOW	8880	3/01/01	---	11.3	13.6	15.5
LOST HORSE	5940	2/21/01	50	13.6	--	28.0
LOWER TWIN PILLOW	7900	3/01/01	---	8.5	11.8	15.0
LUBRECHT PILLOW	4680	3/01/01	---	5.0	5.8	5.8
LUBRECHT FOREST NO 3	5450	2/28/01	25	5.8	6.1	6.3
LUBRECHT FOREST NO 4	4650	2/28/01	15	3.5	2.8	3.1

SNOW COURSE	ELEVATION	DATE	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1961-90
LUBRECHT FOREST NO 6	4040	2/28/01	19	3.8	3.2	3.7
LUBRECHT HYDROPLOT	4200	2/28/01	23	5.1	5.5	6.4
MADISON PLT PILLOW	7750	3/01/01	---	11.2	16.3	20.6
MANY GLACIER PILLOW	4900	3/01/01	---	8.4	12.3	14.8
MARIAS PASS	5250	2/28/01	38	9.6	13.7	14.9
MAYNARD CREEK	6210	2/23/01	28	7.0	8.8	12.4
MIDDLE MILL CREEK	7850	2/27/01	37	9.9	13.5	13.5
MILL CREEK	7500	3/01/01	33	7.2	10.5	10.2
MINERAL CREEK	4000	2/26/01	45	10.1	17.2	15.9
MONUMENT PK PILLOW	8850	3/01/01	---	10.6	16.8	17.8
MOSS PEAK PILLOW	6780	3/01/01	---	19.5	26.9	31.4
MT LOCKHART PILLOW	6400	3/01/01	---	10.3	16.4	18.0
MULE CREEK PILLOW	8300	3/01/01	---	9.1	13.7	13.2
NEVADA RIDGE PILLOW	7020	3/01/01	---	9.1	13.7	11.9
NEW WORLD	6900	2/23/01	35	8.8	8.5	12.0
NEWTON MOUNTAIN	5600	2/26/01	45	12.8	27.1	29.0
NEZ PERCE CMP PILLOW	5650	3/01/01	---	7.8	13.2	13.0
NEZ PERCE CREEK	6600	2/25/01	22	4.5	6.7	5.9
NEZ PERCE PASS	6570	2/23/01	33	9.7	16.8	16.3
NOISY BASIN PILLOW	6040	3/01/01	---	18.0*	31.3	33.7
N.F. ELK CR PILLOW	6250	3/01/01	---	7.7	11.2	10.8
NF JOCKO PILLOW	6330	3/01/01	---	22.2	35.6	39.8
N.E. ENTRANCE PILLOW	7350	3/01/01	---	4.6	9.4	8.1
NOTCH	8500	2/25/01	42	9.5	10.3	12.4
OPHIR PARK	7150	2/25/01	35	9.3	12.0	14.7
PETERSON MEADOWS	7200	3/01/01	27	6.6	--	8.4
PETERSON MDW PILLOW	7200	3/01/01	---	6.6	6.1	8.5
PICKFOOT CRK PILLOW	6650	3/01/01	---	5.9*	7.4	9.1
PIKE CREEK PILLOW	5930	3/01/01	---	10.2	19.3	22.8
PIPESTONE PASS	7200	2/26/01	17	3.2	5.2	4.1
PLACER BASIN PILLOW	8830	3/01/01	---	8.1*	14.3	15.3
PORCUPINE PILLOW	6500	3/01/01	---	4.6	4.9	6.1
POTOMAGETON PARK	7150	3/05/01	32	8.1	12.2	12.6
RED TOP	5260	2/26/01	40	11.7	22.3	24.0
REVAIS CREEK	4800	3/05/01	14	3.2	2.6	3.1
ROCK CREEK	5600	2/27/01	34	9.1	8.1	8.7
ROCK CREEK MEADOW	8160	3/02/01	46	11.7	15.4	17.4
ROCKER PEAK PILLOW	8000	3/01/01	---	9.6	8.7	12.6
ROCKY BOY PILLOW	4700	3/01/01	---	3.1	3.1	4.6
ROCKY BOY	4700	2/27/01	13	2.6	2.0	4.0
SACAJAWEA	6550	2/23/01	31	7.8	9.2	11.8
SADDLE MTN PILLOW	7900	3/01/01	---	12.3	18.4	21.9
SHORT CREEK PILLOW	7000	3/01/01	---	3.5	4.3	4.9
SHOWER FALLS PILLOW	8100	3/01/01	---	11.6	15.4	18.8
SKALKAHO PILLOW	7260	3/01/01	---	11.2	18.3	20.8
SLIDE ROCK MOUNTAIN	7100	2/22/01	31	7.3	9.4	13.3
SMUGGLER MINE	6960	2/27/01	30	8.3	7.7	8.6
S.F. SHIELDS PILLOW	8100	3/01/01	---	8.9*	9.7	14.2
SPOTTED BEAR MTN.	7000	2/27/01	40	9.7	12.4	13.3
SPUR PARK PILLOW	8100	3/01/01	---	10.9	15.1	18.6
SLEEPING WOMAN PILL	6150	3/01/01	---	8.6*	13.5	13.0
STAHL PEAK PILLOW	6030	3/01/01	---	12.7*	25.0	30.2
STEMPLE PASS	6600	2/27/01	24	5.0	8.6	8.5
STORM LAKE	7780	2/22/01	36	8.4	7.0	10.8
STRYKER BASIN	6180	2/27/01	48	13.2*	26.2	28.5
STUART MOUNTAIN PILL	7400	3/01/01	---	18.7	26.3	25.8
SUCKER CREEK	3960	2/27/01	6	.8	.0	.4
TAYLOR ROAD	4080	2/27/01	18	3.0	1.8	3.1
TEN MILE LOWER	6600	2/23/01	25	4.9	4.0	6.3
TEN MILE MIDDLE	6800	2/23/01	31	6.9	5.5	9.5

SNOW COURSE	ELEVATION	DATE	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1961-90
TEPEE CREEK PILLOW	8000	3/01/01	---	8.2	10.3	10.9
TIMBERLINE CREEK	8850	2/26/01	30	5.8*	9.9	11.5
TIZER BASIN PILLOW	6840	3/01/01	---	6.9	6.0	9.6
TRAIL CREEK	7090	2/24/01	24	5.8	7.1	6.9
TRINKUS LAKE	6100	2/27/01	79	23.4*	35.2	36.7
TRUMAN CREEK	4060	2/27/01	23	5.1	3.6	5.0
TV MOUNTAIN	6800	2/26/01	41	9.6	14.4	15.6
TWELVEMILE PILLOW	5600	3/01/01	---	9.6	17.2	16.4
TWENTY-ONE MILE	7150	2/26/01	32	7.5	12.8	14.9
TWIN CREEKS	3580	2/27/01	34	7.9	11.2	10.7
TWIN LAKES PILLOW	6400	3/01/01	---	18.8	36.0	34.3
UPPER HOLLAND LAKE	6200	2/27/01	64	20.3	31.9	30.4
WALDRON PILLOW	5600	3/01/01	---	6.3	9.5	10.0
WARM SPRINGS PILLOW	7800	3/01/01	---	12.3	15.5	18.2
WEASEL DIVIDE	5450	2/28/01	43	11.4	26.2	29.5
WEST YELLOWSTONE	6700	2/26/01	24	4.8	8.4	10.3
WEST YELL'ST PILLOW	6700	3/01/01	---	4.8	8.0	10.1
WHISKEY CREEK PILLOW	6800	3/01/01	---	6.3	12.1	14.5
WHITE MILL PILLOW	8700	3/01/01	---	10.9*	21.2	21.2
WHITE PINE RIDGE	8850	2/24/01	20	4.0	5.4	4.4
WILLOW CREEK	6500	2/23/01	18	4.2	4.2	7.1
WOOD CREEK PILLOW	5960	3/01/01	---	5.4	7.9	9.7
WRONG CREEK	5700	2/27/01	34	8.5	10.8	12.0
WRONG RIDGE	6800	2/28/01	35	8.9	14.6	16.6

NOTE: The sites with the * next to this years water content have set new record lows for March 1.

Montana Water Supply Outlook Report as of March 1, 2001

February produced a couple good storms early in the month to the mountains in the northwest and north central regions. Most of the other mountainous areas had mainly light storms. Temperatures during February were generally seven to 10 degrees below average and precipitation was well below average (50% to 70%) to below average (71% to 90%). February was a month where we were hoping for a lot of storm activity but the month fell short of what was needed to insure adequate snow for spring and summer runoff.

Snowpack

By March 1 there are normally about four to six weeks remaining for significant snow accumulation. Montana mountains need several moisture laden spring snow storms to help the dismal snowpack conditions we have experienced over the past couple months. State-wide, mountain snow water content was 61 percent of average and 68 percent of last year. West of the Continental Divide, snowpack was 59 percent of average and 65 percent of last year and east of the Continental Divide, snowpack was 61 percent of average and 71 percent of last year.

Historically when the March 1 snowpack is 60 percent or less the chances of ending the winter with a snowpack at 90 percent or greater is less than 5 percent. If March does not have above to well above average snowfall, we will need well above average and timely spring and summer rainfall to insure against surface water shortfalls.

RIVER BASIN	% OF AVERAGE	% OF LAST YEAR
COLUMBIA	59	65
KOOTENAI	51 (2)	56
FLATHEAD	58 (1)	64
UPPER CLARK FORK	68 (3)	79
BITTERROOT	54 (2)	57
LOWER CLARK FORK	59 (2)	59
MISSOURI	64	76
MISSOURI HEADWATERS	66	75
JEFFERSON	69 (2)	78
MADISON	60 (2)	69
GALLATIN	64 (T)	75
MISSOURI MAINSTEM	64	80
HEADWATERS MAINSTEM	69 (4)	90
SMITH-JUDITH-MUSSELSHELL ..	65 (2)	83
SUN-TETON-MARIAS	56 (2)	65
MAINSTEM ABOVE FT. PECK RES	62	76
MILK	78	132
BEARPAW MOUNTAINS	73	114
CYPRESS HILLS, CANADA ...	81	150
ST. MARY	52 (2)	59
ST. MARY & MILK	60	77
YELLOWSTONE	57	66
UPPER YELLOWSTONE	56 (T)	63
LOWER YELLOWSTONE (WYOMING) ..	57 (T)	69
WIND	57	78
SHOSHONE	53	61
BIGHORN	57	65
TONGUE	59	65
POWDER	65	71

NOTE: The numbers in the () above show the ranking of basins that are below or near record low snowpack. The (T) is tied with the previous record low, (1) is a new record low and (2) is second lowest of record, (3) is third lowest of record, and (4) is fourth lowest of record.

Precipitation

February mountain and valley precipitation across the state was 69 percent of average and 71 percent of last year, while the water year precipitation was 65 percent of average and 69 percent of last year. West of the Continental Divide, February mountain and valley precipitation was 69 percent of average and 76 percent of last year and the water year precipitation was 57 percent of average and 55 percent of last year. East of the Divide, February mountain and valley precipitation was 69 percent of average and 66 percent of last year and the water year precipitation was 73 percent of average and 84 percent of last year.

RIVER BASIN	FEBRUARY % OF AVERAGE	WATER YEAR % OF AVERAGE
COLUMBIA	69	57
KOOTENAI	50	42
FLATHEAD	74	53
UPPER CLARK FORK	77	73
BITTERROOT	61	60
LOWER CLARK FORK	67	55
MISSOURI	67	73
JEFFERSON	58	77
MADISON	61	70
GALLATIN	53	66
MISSOURI MAINSTEM	69	88
SMITH-JUDITH-MUSSELSHELL	94	78
SUN-TETON-MARIAS	82	60
MILK	73	72
ST. MARY	60	43
YELLOWSTONE	76	66
UPPER YELLOWSTONE	72	64
LOWER YELLOWSTONE (WYOMING) ..	84	73
WIND	73	55
SHOSHONE	96	73
BIGHORN	81	69
TONGUE	68	70
POWDER	75	72

Reservoirs

Major reservoir storages State-wide were 110 percent of average and 107 percent of last year. Reservoir storage west of the Continental Divide was 120 percent of average and 122 percent of last year. East of the Continental Divide, reservoir storages were 97 percent of average and 90 percent of last year.

RIVER BASIN	% OF AVERAGE	% OF LAST YEAR
COLUMBIA	120	122
KOOTENAI	161	173
FLATHEAD	98	96
UPPER CLARK FORK	65	53
BITTERROOT	76	116
LOWER CLARK FORK	103	94
MISSOURI	96	90
JEFFERSON	78	70
MADISON	116	93
GALLATIN	115	123
MISSOURI MAINSTEM	96	98
SMITH-JUDITH-MUSSELSHELL	43	43
SUN-TETON-MARIAS	103	88
MILK	33	38
ST. MARY	43	47
YELLOWSTONE	104	90
UPPER YELLOWSTONE	107	97
LOWER YELLOWSTONE	104	90

Streamflow

Averaged river basin streamflows across Montana are forecast to range from 44 to 49 percent. West of the Continental Divide, averaged streamflows are forecast to range from 48 and 54 percent and east of the Continental Divide, averaged streamflows are forecast to range from 39 to 46 percent.

Unless March is exceptionally wet there could be water shortages worse than last year and the worst we have seen for many years. Water users and water managers need to begin making plans for possible water shortages this summer.

Below are averaged river basin streamflow forecast summaries for the period April 1 through July 31. THESE FORECASTS ASSUME NEAR NORMAL SPRING CONDITIONS AND DO NOT ACCOUNT FOR WELL BELOW AVERAGE (70% or less) OR ABOVE AVERAGE (110% or more) SNOWMELT OR SPRING RAIN. Specific forecast probabilities are available in each individual River Basin Report.

RIVER BASIN	April-July THIS YEAR	April-July LAST YEAR
	% OF AVERAGE	% OF AVERAGE
COLUMBIA	48 to 54	82 to 92
KOOTENAI	45 to 50	86 to 95
FLATHEAD	47 to 51	86 to 94
UPPER CLARK FORK	53 to 63	65 to 81
BITTERROOT	51 to 57	85 to 95
LOWER CLARK FORK	42 to 49	86 to 94
MISSOURI	46 to 55	61 to 77
JEFFERSON	47 to 61	52 to 70
MADISON	65 to 72	80 to 88
GALLATIN	65 to 74	73 to 84
MISSOURI MAINSTEM	43 to 52	64 to 80
SMITH-JUDITH-MUSSELSHELL ..	38 to 45	64 to 81
SUN-TETON-MARIAS	37 to 46	67 to 86
MILK	24 to 32	30 to 52
ST. MARY	44 to 47	71 to 77
YELLOWSTONE	46 to 52	66 to 78
UPPER YELLOWSTONE	54 to 60	73 to 84
LOWER YELLOWSTONE	37 to 45	58 to 73

NOTE: The APRIL-JULY LAST YEAR % OF AVERAGE column above is what was forecast last year, not what actually occurred.

Surface Water Supply Index

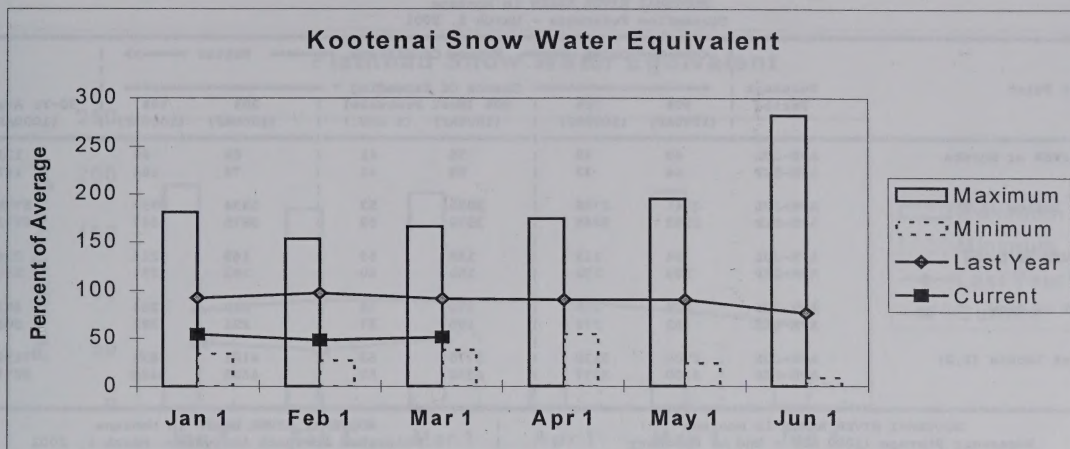
The Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) is a measure of available surface water availability for the spring and summer months. Water users that rely on mountain precipitation can use the index to evaluate seasonal surface water supplies. The SWSI accounts for mountain snowpack, mountain precipitation, streamflow, reservoir storage, and soil moisture.

SWSI RATING	SURFACE WATER CONDITION
+3.0 to +4.0	Extremely Wet
+2.0 to +2.9	Moderately Wet
+1.0 to +1.9	Slightly Wet
-0.9 to +0.9	Near Average
-1.0 to -1.9	Slightly Dry
-2.0 to -2.9	Moderately Dry
-3.0 to -4.0	Extremely Dry

SWSI	Basin
-3.6	Kootenai River at Ft. Steele (Kootenai in Canada)
-3.8	Tobacco River
-3.2	Kootenai Ft. Steele to Libby Dam
-1.3	Kootenai River below Libby Dam
-2.8	Fisher River
-3.3	Yaak River
-3.8	North Fork Flathead River
-3.8	Middle FORK Flathead River
-2.2	South Fork Flathead River
-3.2	Flathead River at Columbia Falls
-3.6	Stillwater/Whitefish Rivers
-3.7	Swan River
-3.0	Flathead River at Polson
-3.3	Mission Valley
-2.0	Little Bitterroot River
-2.7	Clark Fork River above Milltown
-3.3	Blackfoot River
-2.8	Clark Fork River above Missoula
-3.1	Bitterroot River
-2.9	Clark Fork River below Bitterroot River
-2.9	Clark Fork River below Flathead River
-2.4	Beaverhead River
-1.6	Ruby River
-3.5	Big Hole River
-1.7	Boulder River (Jefferson)
-2.9	Jefferson River
-1.1	Madison River
-2.5	Gallatin River
-2.2	Missouri River above Canyon Ferry
-2.0	Missouri River below Canyon Ferry
-3.0	Smith River
-3.0	Sun River
-3.1	Teton River
-3.1	Birch/Dupuyer Creeks
-1.7	Marias River
-3.1	Musselshell River
-1.4	Missouri River above Ft. Peck
-1.6	Missouri River below Ft. Peck
-3.0	Milk River
-3.5	Dearborn River near Craig
-2.8	Yellowstone River above Livingston
-2.7	Shields River
-3.1	Boulder River (Yellowstone)
-3.5	Stillwater River
-3.1	Rock/Red Lodge Creeks
-3.7	Clarks Fork River
-3.1	Yellowstone River above Bighorn River
-2.4	Bighorn River below Bighorn Lake
-2.5	Little Bighorn River
-2.8	Yellowstone River below Bighorn River
-2.8	Tongue River
-3.5	Powder River

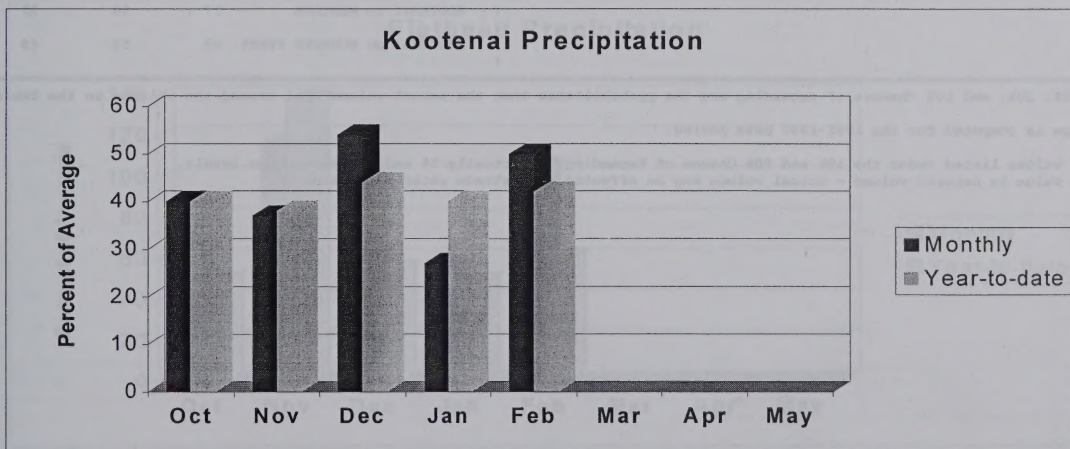
Kootenai River Basin in Montana

Snowpack conditions in the Kootenai River Basin were well below average second lowest of record behind 1977. Snow water content was 51 percent of average and 56 percent of last year. Snow water content in the Kootenay in Canada was 46 percent of average and 50 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum was in 1977; February maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1977; March maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1974 and minimum swe was in 1977; May maximum swe was in 1974 and minimum swe was in 1977; and June maximum swe was in 1974 and minimum swe was in 1992. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain precipitation during February was 50 percent of average and 41 percent of last year. Valley precipitation during February was 55 percent of average and 49 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2000, was 42 percent of average and 41 percent of last year.



Lake Koocanusa storage was 161 percent of average and 173 percent of last year.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -3.6 in the Kootenai at Ft. Steele (Kootenai in Canada); -3.8 in the Tobacco River; -3.2 in the Kootenai Ft. Steele to Libby Dam; -1.3 in the Kootenai River below Libby Dam; -2.8 in the Fisher River; and -3.3 in the Yaak River.

KOOTENAI RIVER BASIN in Montana
Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2001

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<===== Drier ===== Future Conditions ===== Wetter =====>>						
		Chance Of Exceeding *		30% (1000AF)		10% (1000AF)		30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF) (% AVG.)				
TOBACCO RIVER nr Eureka	APR-JUL	40	49	55	41	69	90	133
	APR-SEP	44	53	60	41	76	100	147
LIBBY RES Inflow (1,2)	APR-JUL	2141	2766	3050	53	3334	3959	5779
	APR-SEP	2593	3265	3570	53	3875	4547	6772
FISHER RIVER nr Libby	APR-JUL	94	119	138	59	169	215	234
	APR-SEP	103	130	150	60	183	231	250
YAAK RIVER nr Troy	APR-JUL	135	155	170	35	208	264	483
	APR-SEP	152	172	185	37	224	281	505
KOOTENAI at Leonia (1,2)	APR-JUL	2709	3439	3770	52	4101	4831	7199
	APR-SEP	3200	3977	4330	52	4683	5460	8275

KOOTENAI RIVER BASIN in Montana
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of February

KOOTENAI RIVER BASIN in Montana
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - March 1, 2001

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
LAKE KOOCANUSA	5748.0	3090.0	1785.0	1921.0	KOOTENAY in CANADA	23	50	46
					KOOTENAI MAINTSTEM	3	48	49
					TOBACCO	3	50	43
					FISHER	4	71	66
					YAAK	7	59	50
					KOOTENAI in MONTANA	17	56	51
					KOOTENAI ab BONNERS FERRY	40	53	49

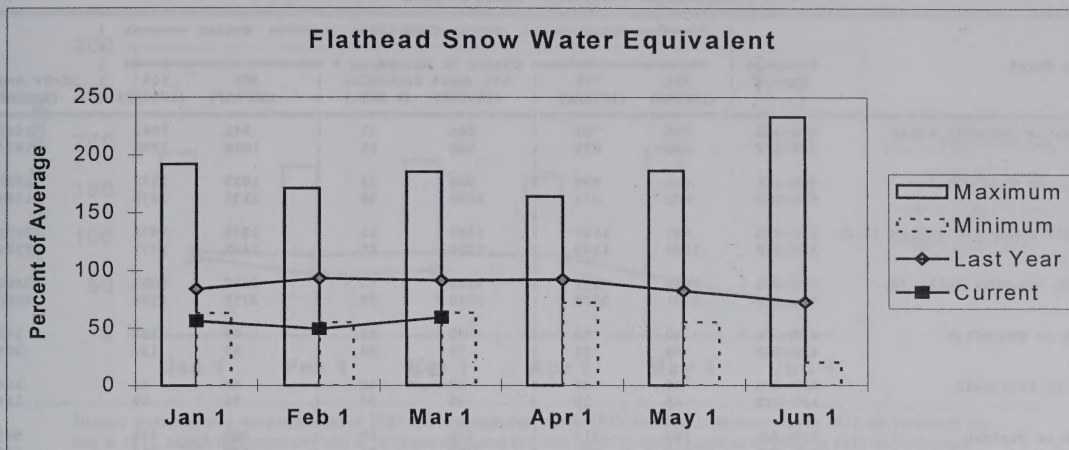
* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
 (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

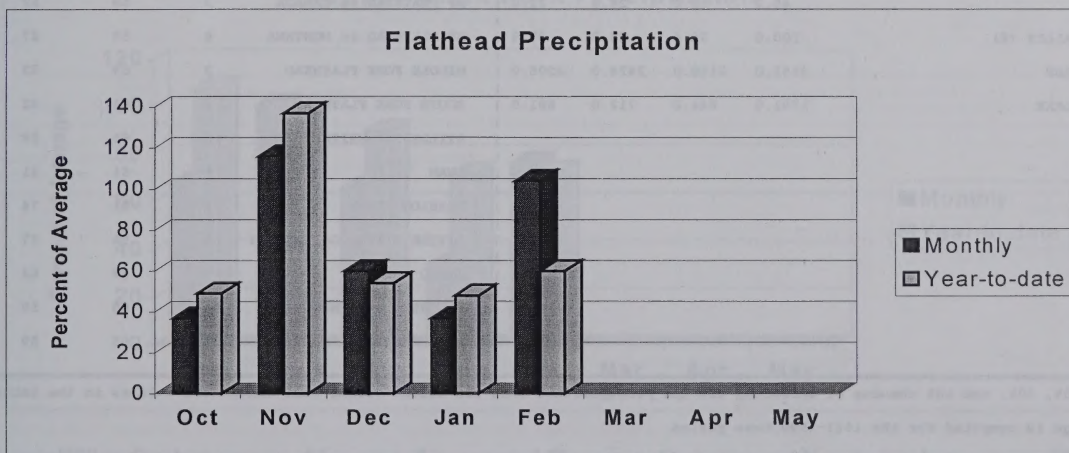
Flathead River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Flathead River Basin were well below average and has set a new record low snow water content which was previously set in 1977. Snow water content was 59 percent of average and 64 percent of last year. Snow water content in the North Fork Flathead River in Canada was 52 percent of average and 59 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum was in 1988; February maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum was in 1977; March maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum was in 1992; May maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum was in 1992; and June maximum swe was in 1974 and minimum was in 1992. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain precipitation during February was 73 percent of average and 89 percent of last year. Valley precipitation during February was 104 percent of average and 84 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2000, was 53 percent of average and 49 percent of last year.



Combined Camas reservoir storage was 92 percent of average and 67 percent of last year; combined Mission Valley reservoir storage was 94 percent of average and 125 percent of last year; Hungry Horse storage was 98 percent of average and 89 percent of last year; and Flathead Lake storage was 96 percent of average and 119 percent of last year.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -3.8 in the North Fork Flathead River; -3.8 in the Middle Fork Flathead River; -2.2 in the South Fork Flathead River; -3.2 in the Flathead River at Columbia Falls; -3.6 in the Stillwater/Whitefish Rivers; -3.7 in the Swan River; -3.0 in the Flathead River at Polson; -3.3 in the Mission Valley; and -2.0 in the Little Bitterroot River.

FLATHEAD RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2001

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<===== Drier ===== Future Conditions ===== Wetter =====>>						30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	Chance Of Exceeding * 50% (Most Probable) (1000AF) (% AVG.)		30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
NF FLATHEAD nr Columbia Falls	APR-JUL	725	791	845	51	941	1083	1662
	APR-SEP	808	881	940	51	1046	1202	1836
MF FLATHEAD nr West Glacier	APR-JUL	814	896	945	58	1037	1172	1638
	APR-SEP	882	971	1030	58	1131	1279	1788
HUNGRY HORSE Reservoir Inflow (1,2)	APR-JUL	992	1157	1240	61	1376	1676	2051
	APR-SEP	1068	1243	1320	60	1461	1771	2184
FLATHEAD at Columbia Falls (2)	APR-JUL	2602	2931	3110	57	3477	4027	5482
	APR-SEP	2771	3069	3320	56	3719	4306	5960
STILLWATER nr Whitefish	APR-JUL	40	53	60	32	85	122	189
	APR-SEP	48	61	70	34	97	137	209
WHITEFISH nr Kalispell	APR-JUL	38	46	50	48	60	74	104
	APR-SEP	45	55	60	52	71	88	116
SWAN RIVER nr Bigfork	APR-JUL	280	315	340	58	382	445	583
	APR-SEP	319	359	390	59	440	512	665
FLATHEAD Lake Inflow (1,2)	APR-JUL	3095	3351	3520	55	3869	4638	6390
	APR-SEP	3340	3617	3820	55	4199	5033	6926

FLATHEAD RIVER BASIN Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of February					FLATHEAD RIVER BASIN Watershed Snowpack Analysis - March 1, 2001			
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
CAMAS (4)	45.2	19.4	28.8	21.0	NF FLATHEAD in CANADA	3	59	52
MISSION VALLEY (8)	100.0	35.4	28.3	37.8	NF FLATHEAD in MONTANA	6	53	47
HUNGRY HORSE	3451.0	2168.0	2428.0	2205.0	MIDDLE FORK FLATHEAD	3	63	53
FLATHEAD LAKE	1791.0	844.0	712.0	881.0	SOUTH FORK FLATHEAD	4	64	62
					STILLWATER-WHITEFISH	10	65	59
					SWAN	5	64	61
					MISSION VALLEY	2	81	74
					LITTLE BITTERROOT-ASHLEY	6	94	77
					JOCKO	5	67	64
					FLATHEAD in MONTANA	31	65	59
					FLATHEAD RIVER BASIN	34	65	59

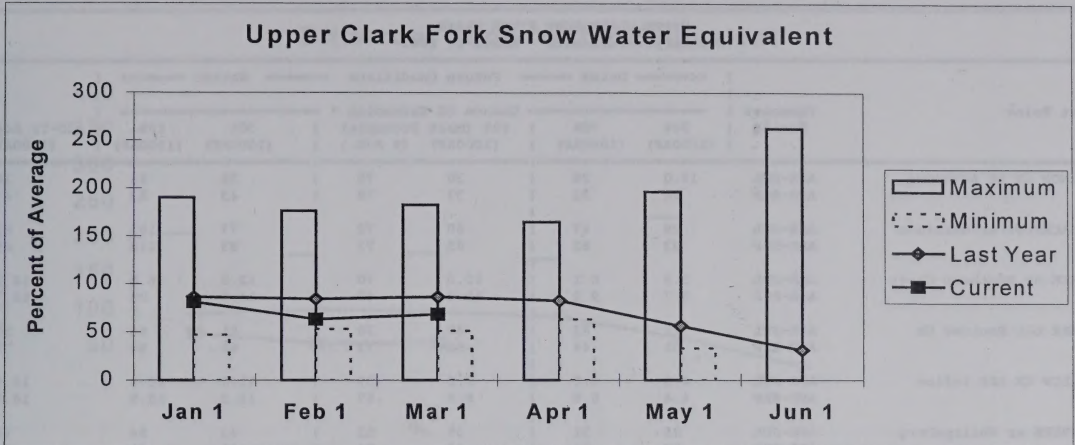
* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
 (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

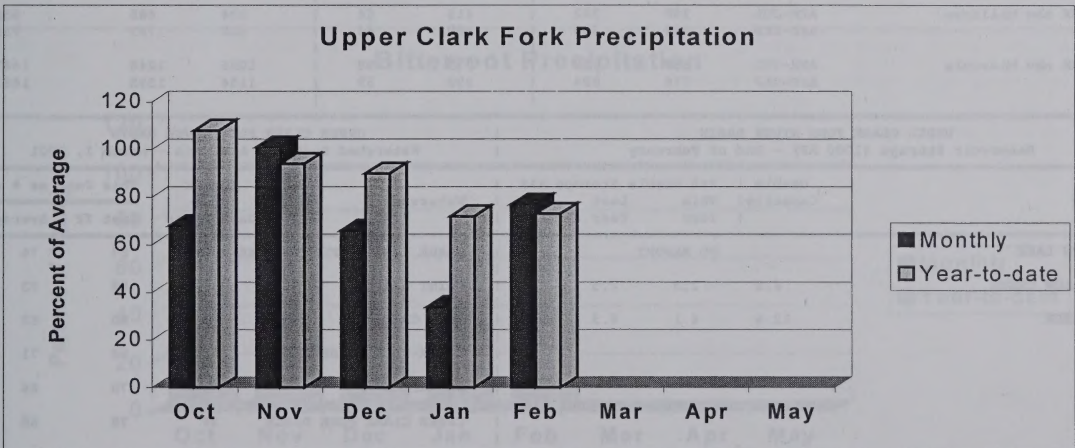
Upper Clark Fork River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Upper Clark Fork River Basin were well below average and third lowest of record behind 1977 and 1987 respectively. Snow water content was 68 percent of average and 79 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1977; February maximum was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; March maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum was in 1994; May maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; and June maximum swe was in 1975 and minimum swe was in 1987. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain precipitation during February was 76 percent of average and 80 percent of last year. Valley precipitation during February was 107 percent of average and 101 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2000, was 73 percent of average and 80 percent of last year.



Lower Willow Creek storage was 76 percent of average and 52 percent of last year; and Nevada Creek storage was 82 percent of average and 65 percent of last year.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -2.7 in the Clark Fork River above Milltown; -3.3 in the Blackfoot River; and -2.8 in the Clark Fork River above Missoula.

UPPER CLARK FORK RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2001

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<===== Drier ===== Future Conditions ===== Wetter =====>>						30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)				
		90% (1000AF)		70% (1000AF)		Chance Of Exceeding * 50% (Most Probable) (1000AF) (% AVG.)			30% (1000AF)		10% (1000AF)	
WARM SPRINGS CK at Anaconda	APR-JUL	19.0	26	30	79	36	44	38				
	APR-SEP	24	32	37	79	43	53	47				
LITTLE BLACKFOOT nr Garrison	APR-JUL	29	47	60	72	77	103	83				
	APR-SEP	33	52	65	73	83	110	89				
FLINT CREEK nr Southern Cross	APR-JUL	5.3	8.1	10.0	70	12.8	16.8	14.2				
	APR-SEP	5.7	9.2	11.5	69	14.9	20	16.7				
FLINT CREEK blw Boulder Ck	APR-JUL	22	33	40	70	51	66	57				
	APR-SEP	31	44	53	73	66	84	73				
LOWER WILLOW CK RES Inflow	APR-JUL	4.2	6.6	8.2	59	11.0	15.0	14.0				
	APR-SEP	4.4	6.8	8.5	57	11.3	15.5	14.8				
MF ROCK CREEK nr Philipsburg	APR-JUL	25	31	35	53	43	54	66				
	APR-SEP	29	36	40	54	48	61	74				
ROCK CREEK nr Clinton	APR-JUL	118	148	170	57	207	261	296				
	APR-SEP	133	167	190	57	230	290	333				
NEVADA CREEK nr Finn	APR-JUL	5.5	8.8	11.0	58	14.9	21	19.1				
	APR-SEP	6.3	9.7	12.0	57	16.1	22	21				
CLEARWATER nr Clearwater	APR-JUL	83	105	120	70	142	173	172				
	APR-SEP	87	110	125	69	147	180	181				
BLACKFOOT RIVER nr Bonner	APR-JUL	344	411	450	54	545	685	835				
	APR-SEP	385	450	500	54	602	752	926				
CLARK FORK abv Milltown	APR-JUL	238	342	415	64	524	685	652				
	APR-SEP	284	398	480	64	602	781	755				
CLARK FORK abv Missoula	APR-JUL	680	799	875	59	1026	1248	1487				
	APR-SEP	776	894	990	59	1154	1395	1681				

UPPER CLARK FORK RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of February

UPPER CLARK FORK RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - March 1, 2001

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
GEORGETOWN LAKE		NO REPORT			CLARK FORK ab FLINT CREEK	14	87	76
LOWER WILLOW CREEK	4.9	1.3	2.5	1.7	FLINT CREEK	6	99	73
NEVADA CREEK	12.6	4.1	6.3	5.0	ROCK CREEK	5	80	62
					CLARK FORK ab BLACKFOOT	22	85	71
					BLACKFOOT	15	70	66
					UPPER CLARK FORK BASIN	35	78	68

* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

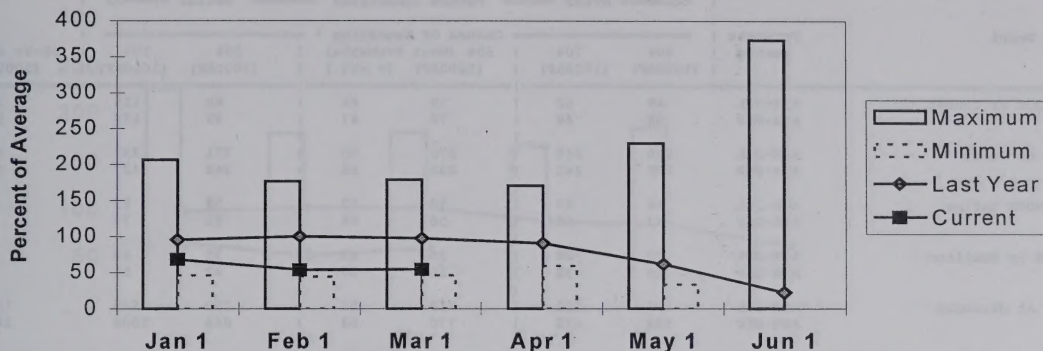
The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

Bitterroot River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Bitterroot River Basin were well below average and second lowest of record behind 1977. Snow water content was 54 percent of average and 57 percent of last year.

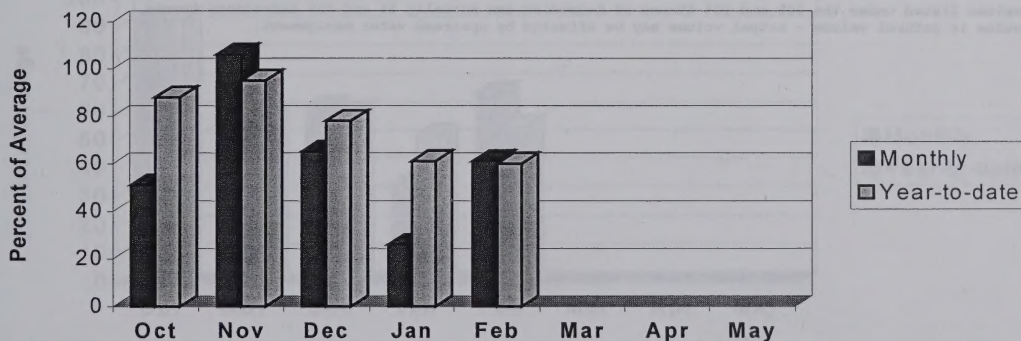
Bitterroot Snow Water Equivalent



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe in 1977; February maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum was in 1977; March maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; May maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1987; and June maximum swe was 1972 and 1974 and minimum swe was in 1987 and 1992. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain precipitation during February was 61 percent of average and 66 percent of last year. Valley precipitation during February was 62 percent of average and 39 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2000, was 60 percent of average and 60 percent of last year.

Bitterroot Precipitation



Painted Rocks Lake storage was 74 percent of average and 107 percent of last year and Como storage was 77 percent of average and 125 percent of last year.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -3.1 in the Bitterroot River.

BITTERROOT RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2001

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<===== Drier ===== Future Conditions ===== Wetter =====>>						30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)				
		90% (1000AF)		70% (1000AF)		Chance Of Exceeding * (1000AF) (% AVG.)			30% (1000AF)		10% (1000AF)	
WF BITTERROOT nr Conner (2)	APR-JUL	49	62	70	46	88	115	152				
	APR-SEP	55	68	78	47	99	129	166				
BITTERROOT nr Darby	APR-JUL	206	246	270	55	321	397	491				
	APR-SEP	222	265	295	55	348	427	540				
COMO RESERVOIR Inflow	APR-JUL	44	49	53	67	59	67	79				
	APR-SEP	47	52	56	68	62	70	83				
SKALKAHO CK nr Hamilton	APR-JUL	20	25	29	63	35	43	46				
	APR-SEP	25	32	36	68	42	51	53				
BITTERROOT at Missoula	APR-JUL	491	621	710	55	799	929	1300				
	APR-SEP	534	675	770	54	865	1006	1420				

BITTERROOT RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of February

BITTERROOT RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - March 1, 2001

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
PAINTED ROCKS LAKE	31.7	9.1	8.5	12.3	WEST FORK BITTERROOT	3	62	58
COMO	34.9	10.1	8.1	13.1	EAST SIDE BITTERROOT	5	65	57
					WEST SIDE BITTERROOT	4	50	51
					BITTERROOT RIVER BASIN	11	57	54

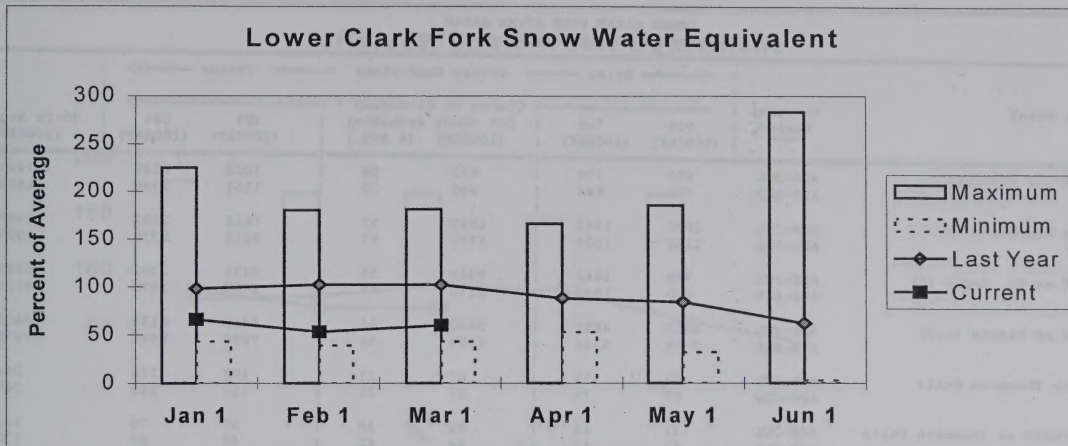
* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
 (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

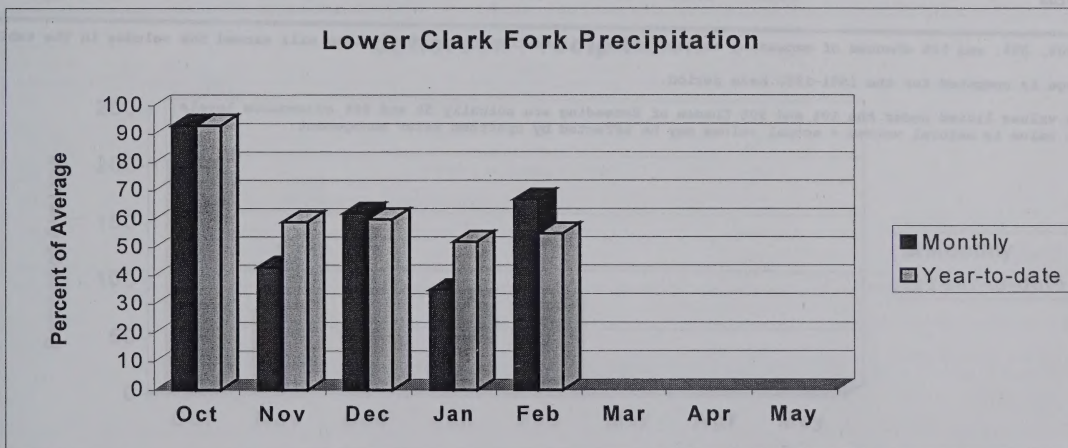
Lower Clark Fork River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Lower Clark Fork River Basin were well below average and second lowest of record behind 1977. Snow water content was 60 percent of average and 60 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1977; February maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; March maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1981; May maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; and June maximum swe was in 1974 and minimum swe was in 1977. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain precipitation during February was 66 percent of average and 71 percent of last year. Valley precipitation during February was 68 percent of average and 68 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2000, was 55 percent of average and 51 percent of last year.



Noxon Rapids storage was 103 percent of average and 94 percent of last year.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -2.9 in the Clark Fork River below Bitterroot River and -2.9 in the Clark Fork River below Flathead River.

LOWER CLARK FORK RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2001

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<===== Drier =====		Future Conditions		===== Wetter =====>>>		30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		90%	70%	Chance Of Exceeding *		30%	10%	
		(1000AF)	(1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	(1000AF)	(1000AF)	
CLARK FORK abv Missoula	APR-JUL	680	799	875	59	1026	1248	1487
	APR-SEP	776	894	990	59	1154	1395	1681
CLARK FORK blw Missoula	APR-JUL	1027	1362	1590	57	1818	2153	2788
	APR-SEP	1162	1524	1770	57	2016	2378	3099
CLARK FORK at St. Regis (1)	APR-JUL	779	1646	2040	55	2434	3301	3686
	APR-SEP	870	1833	2270	55	2707	3670	4095
CLARK FORK nr Plains (1,2)	APR-JUL	3147	4861	5640	54	6419	8133	10450
	APR-SEP	3459	5344	6200	54	7056	8941	11470
THOMPSON nr Thompson Falls	APR-JUL	60	71	80	37	102	135	214
	APR-SEP	67	79	87	36	110	145	240
PROSPECT CREEK at Thompson Falls	APR-JUL	37	43	48	39	59	76	123
	APR-SEP	42	49	54	41	66	83	132
CLARK FK at Whitehorse Rpds (1,2)	APR-JUL	3405	5375	6270	54	7165	9135	11730
	APR-SEP	3747	5915	6900	53	7885	10053	12910

LOWER CLARK FORK RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of February

LOWER CLARK FORK RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - March 1, 2001

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
NOXON RAPIDS	335.0	305.9	326.1	298.1	LOWER CLARK FORK BASIN	11	60	60

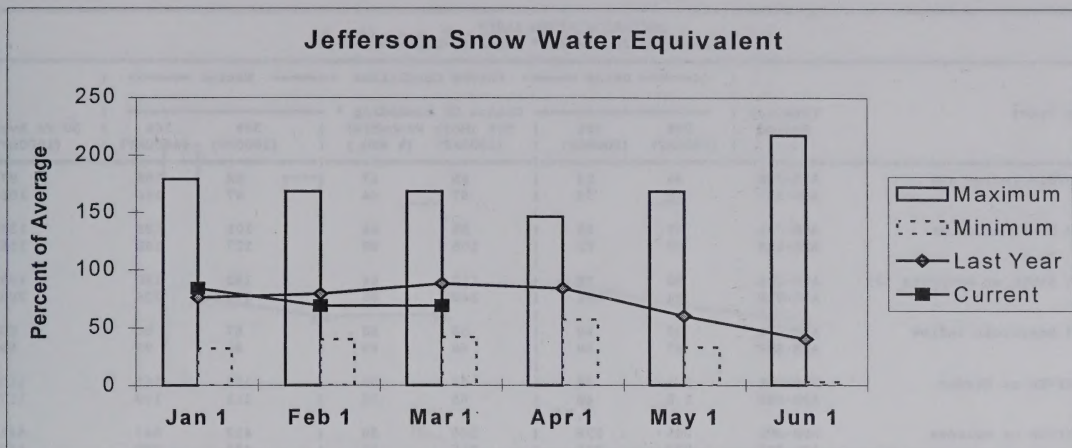
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The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
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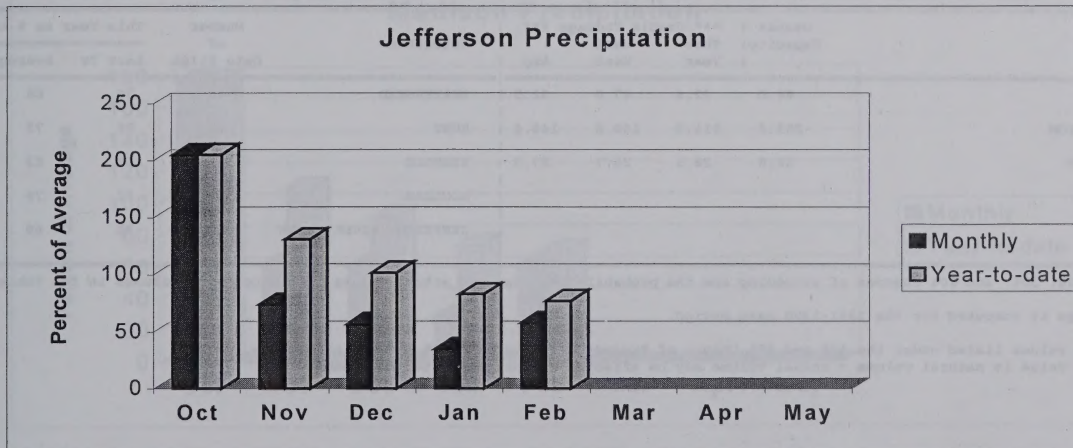
Jefferson River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Jefferson River Basin were well below average and second lowest of record behind 1977. Snow water content was 69 percent of average and 78 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1977; February maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum was in 1977; March maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum was in 1977; May maximum swe was in 1975 and minimum swe was in 1977; and June maximum swe was in 1982 and minimum in 1987. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain precipitation during February was 58 percent of average and 59 percent of last year. Valley precipitation during February was 55 percent of average and 34 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2000, was 77 percent of average and 90 percent of last year.



Lima storage was 66 percent of average and 48 percent of last year; Clark Canyon storage was 76 percent of average and 70 percent of last year; and Ruby River storage was 104 percent of average and 107 percent of last year.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -2.4 in the Beaverhead River; -1.6 in the Ruby River; -3.5 in the Big Hole River; -1.7 in the Boulder River; and -2.9 in the Jefferson River as a whole.

JEFFERSON RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2001

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<===== Drier ===== Future Conditions ===== Wetter =====>>						30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)				
		90% (1000AF)		70% (1000AF)		Chance Of Exceeding * 50% (Most Probable) (1000AF) (% AVG.)			30% (1000AF)		10% (1000AF)	
LIMA RESERVOIR Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	36	53	65	67	82	108	97				
	APR-SEP	36	55	67	64	87	116	105				
BEAVERHEAD RIVER nr Grant	APR-JUL	45	69	85	64	101	125	132				
	APR-SEP	52	83	105	68	127	158	155				
BEAVERHEAD RIVER at Barretts (2)	APR-JUL	30	78	110	64	142	190	172				
	APR-SEP	44	101	140	69	179	236	203				
RUBY RIVER Reservoir Inflow	APR-JUL	37	48	56	68	67	84	83				
	APR-SEP	47	59	68	69	81	99	99				
BIG HOLE RIVER at Wisdom	APR-JUL	2.0	36	60	55	103	166	110				
	APR-SEP	1.0	40	65	56	111	179	117				
BIG HOLE RIVER nr Melrose	APR-JUL	205	276	320	50	412	547	641				
	APR-SEP	230	307	355	51	455	602	697				
BOULDER RIVER nr Boulder	APR-JUL	32	52	65	77	83	108	85				
	APR-SEP	34	56	70	77	89	117	91				
WILLOW CREEK Reservoir Inflow	APR-JUL	3.0	6.5	9.0	51	13.8	21	17.7				
	APR-SEP	3.2	7.6	10.5	53	16.1	24	20				
JEFFERSON RIVER nr Three Forks (2)	APR-JUL	325	424	490	50	624	821	985				
	APR-SEP	191	399	540	53	681	889	1012				

JEFFERSON RIVER BASIN Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of February					JEFFERSON RIVER BASIN Watershed Snowpack Analysis - March 1, 2001			
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
LIMA	84.0	22.6	47.0	34.5	BEAVERHEAD	16	74	68
CLARK CANYON	255.6	111.9	160.6	146.6	RUBY	11	86	73
RUBY RIVER	38.8	28.5	26.7	27.3	BIGHOLE	15	69	63
					BOULDER	9	92	79
					JEFFERSON RIVER BASIN	43	78	69

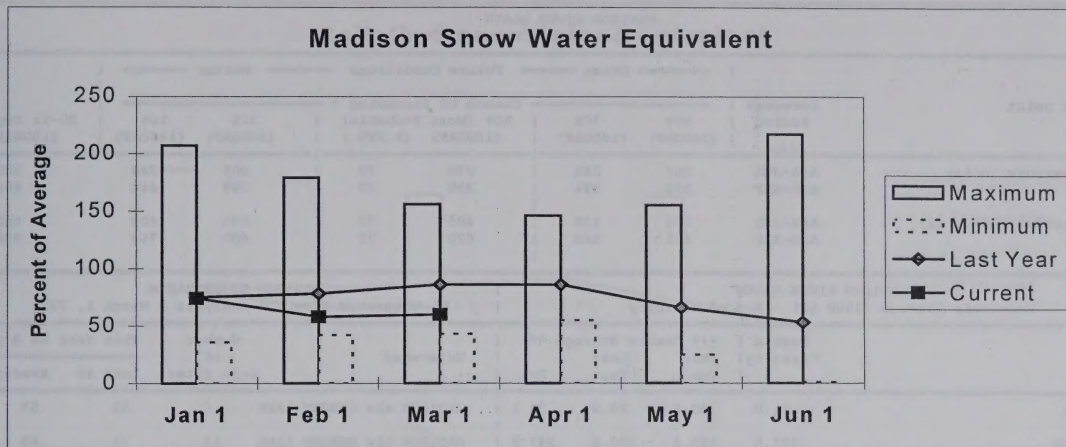
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The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

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 (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

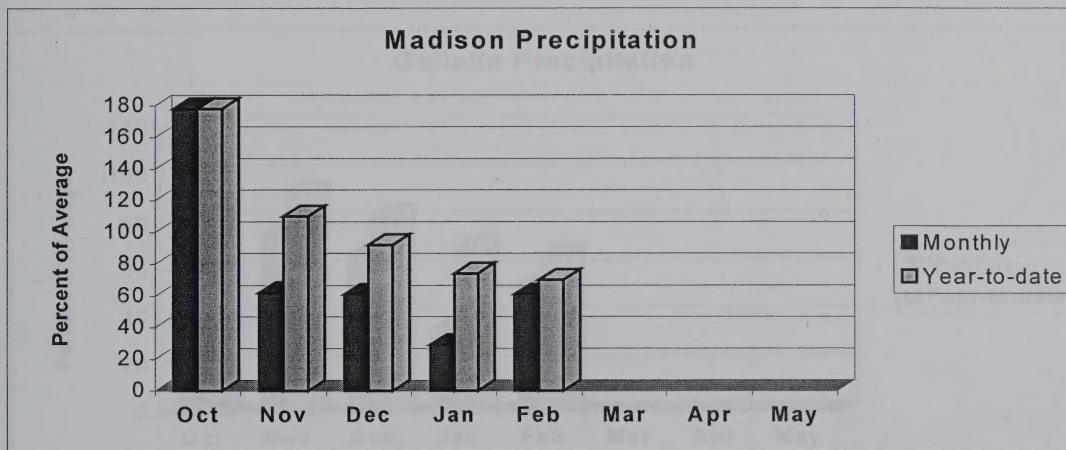
Madison River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Madison River Basin were well below average and second lowest of record behind 1977. Snow water content was 60 percent of average and 69 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1977; February maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum was in 1977; March maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum was in 1977; May maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1977; and June maximum swe was in 1995 and minimum in 1987. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain and valley precipitation during February was 61 percent of average and 55 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2000, was 70 percent of average and 81 percent of last year.



Ennis Lake storage was 90 percent of average and 109 percent of last year and Hebgen Lake storage was 119 percent of average and 92 percent of last year.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -1.1 for the Madison River.

MADISON RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2001

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<===== Drier =====		Future Conditions		===== Wetter =====>>		30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		90%	70%	Chance Of Exceeding *		30%	10%	
		(1000AF)	(1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	(1000AF)	(1000AF)	
HEBGEN Reservoir Inflow	APR-JUL	202	245	275	72	305	348	380
	APR-SEP	270	321	355	73	389	440	486
ENNIS Reservoir Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	362	435	485	73	535	608	662
	APR-SEP	471	560	620	75	680	769	831

MADISON RIVER BASIN Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of February					MADISON RIVER BASIN Watershed Snowpack Analysis - March 1, 2001			
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
ENNIS LAKE	41.0	30.6	28.2	34.1	MADISON abv HEBGEN LAKE	6	59	53
HEBGEN LAKE	377.5	295.4	320.6	247.8	MADISON blw HEBGEN LAKE	12	76	65
					MADISON RIVER BASIN	18	69	60

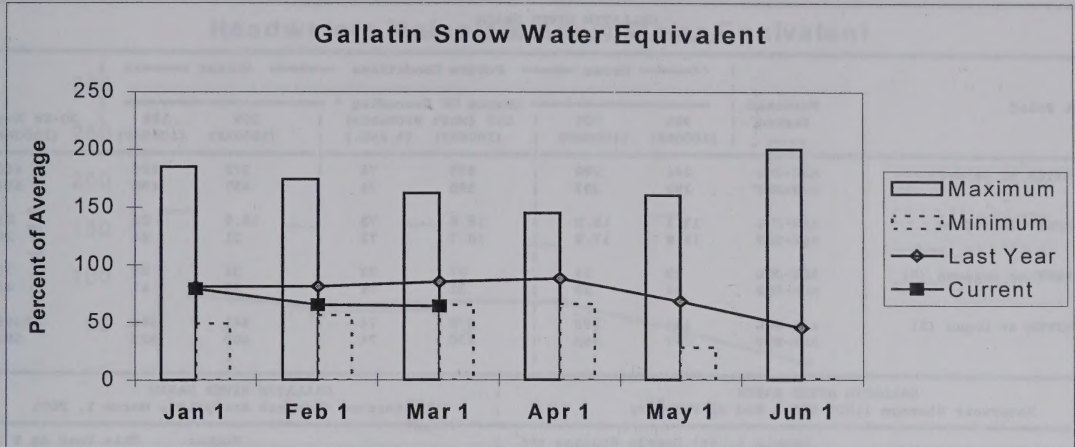
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The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
 (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

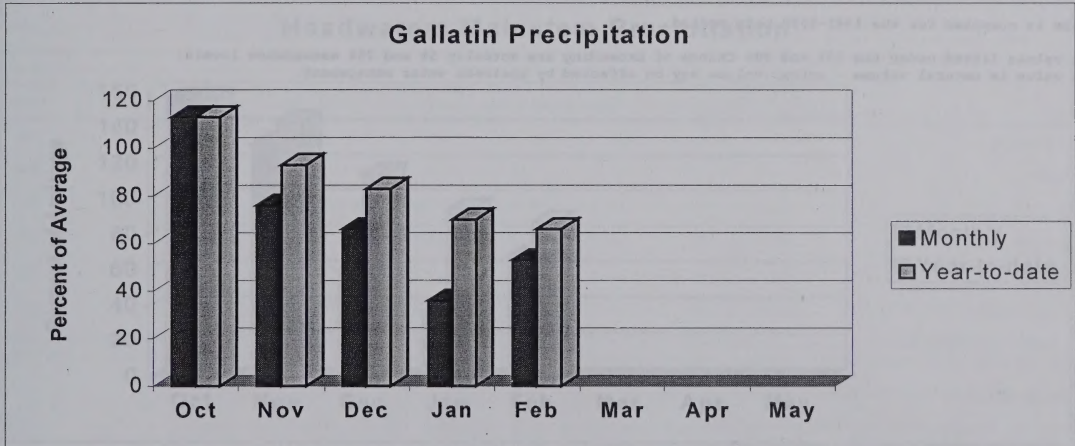
Gallatin River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Gallatin River Basin were well below average and tied with the previous records set in 1977 and 1987. Snow water content was 64 percent of average and 75 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1966; February maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum was in 1981; March maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum was in 1977 and 1987; April maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum was in 1987; May maximum swe was in 1970 and minimum swe was in 1987; and June maximum swe was in 1975 and minimum in 1987. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain precipitation during February was 53 percent of average and 61 percent of last year. Valley precipitation during February was 50 percent of average and 59 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2000, was 66 percent of average and 82 percent of last year.



Middle Creek storage was 115 percent of average and 123 percent of last year.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -2.5 for the Gallatin River.

GALLATIN RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2001

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<===== Drier =====		Future Conditions		===== Wetter =====>>		30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		90%	70%	Chance Of Exceeding *		30%	10%	
		(1000AF)	(1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	(1000AF)	(1000AF)	
GALLATIN RIVER nr Gateway	APR-JUL	244	298	335	76	372	426	440
	APR-SEP	292	353	395	76	437	498	518
HYALITE RESERVOIR Inflow	APR-JUL	13.1	15.2	16.8	73	18.9	22	23
	APR-SEP	14.8	17.2	18.7	72	21	24	26
HYALITE CREEK nr Bozeman (2)	APR-JUL	20	24	27	75	31	36	36
	APR-SEP	24	28	31	74	35	41	42
GALLATIN RIVER at Logan (2)	APR-JUL	194	299	370	74	441	546	498
	APR-SEP	237	352	430	74	508	623	581

GALLATIN RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of February

GALLATIN RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - March 1, 2001

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
MIDDLE CREEK	10.2	6.9	5.6	6.0	UPPER GALLATIN ..	7	73	66
					HYALITE	4	82	63
					BRIDGER	3	75	61
					GALLATIN RIVER BASIN	14	75	64

* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

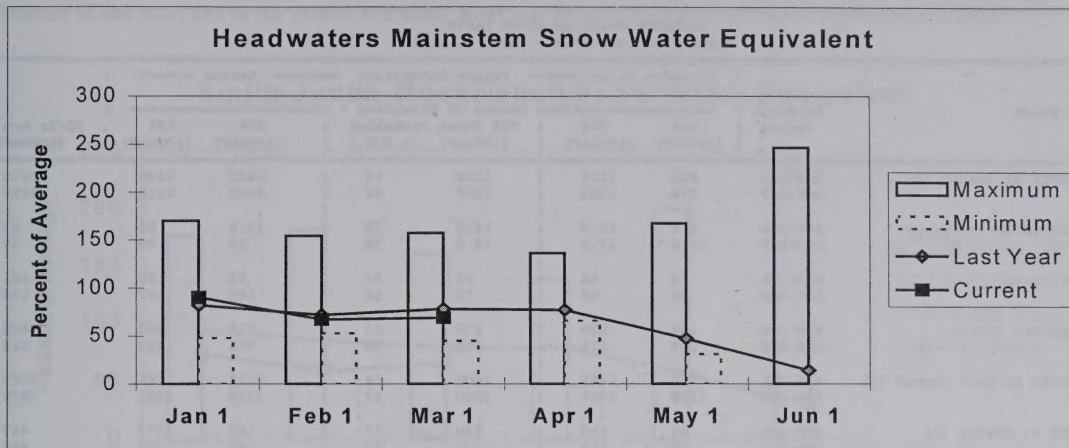
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 (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.



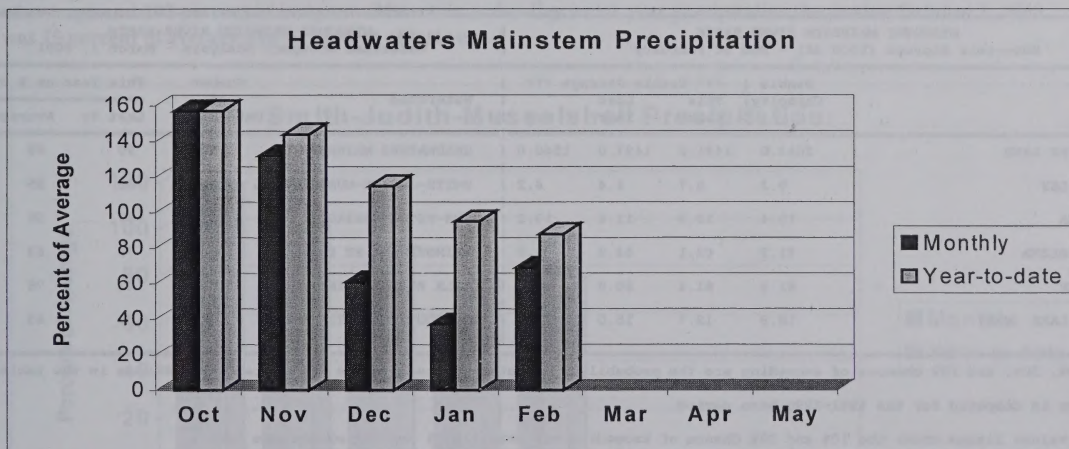
Missouri Mainstem River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Headwaters Missouri Mainstem River Basin were well below average and fourth lowest of record. Snow water content was 69 percent of average and 90 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe in 1977; February maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; March maximum swe in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1961; May maximum swe was in 1975 and minimum swe was in 1977; and June maximum swe was in 1982 and minimum swe was in 1992. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain precipitation during February was 75 percent of average and 84 percent of last year. Valley precipitation during February was 56 percent of average and 39 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2000, was 88 percent of average and 119 percent of last year.



Canyon Ferry Lake storage was 95 percent of average and 98 percent of last year; Helena Valley storage was 136 percent of average and 130 percent of last year; Lake Helena storage was 107 percent of average and 96 percent of last year; Hauser & Helena storage was 103 percent of average and 98 percent of last year; Holter Lake storage was 119 percent of average and 101 percent of last year; and Fort Peck Lake storage was 86 percent of average and 85 percent of last year.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -2.2 in the Missouri River above Canyon Ferry; -2.0 in the Missouri River below Canyon Ferry; -1.4 in the Missouri River above Fort Peck; and -1.6 in the Missouri River below Fort Peck.

MISSOURI MAINSTEM RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2001

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<===== Drier =====		Future Conditions		===== Wetter =====>>		30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		90%	70%	Chance Of Exceeding *		30%	10%	
		(1000AF)	(1000AF)	50% (Most Probable)	(% AVG.)	(1000AF)	(1000AF)	
MISSOURI RIVER at Toston (2)	APR-JUL	830	1121	1325	64	1642	2108	2075
	APR-SEP	918	1329	1550	64	1883	2319	2416
FRICKLY PEAR CREEK nr Clancy	APR-JUL	9.9	13.6	16.0	70	19.6	25	23
	APR-SEP	11.6	15.9	19.0	70	23	30	27
DEARBORN nr Criag	APR-JUL	24	48	65	54	95	140	121
	APR-SEP	28	53	70	56	101	147	125
GIBSON Reservoir Inflow	APR-JUL	196	239	270	57	316	383	478
	APR-SEP	226	274	305	58	352	422	526
MISSOURI RIVER at Fort Benton (2)	APR-JUL	1235	1451	1680	54	2117	2761	3087
	APR-SEP	1398	1541	2080	57	2619	3531	3678
MARIAS RIVER nr Shelby (2)	APR-JUL	80	103	120	27	182	273	447
	APR-SEP	88	107	125	26	187	278	487
MISSOURI RIVER at Virgelle (2)	APR-JUL	1007	1186	1725	48	2326	3211	3595
	APR-SEP	1645	1813	2120	50	2721	3627	4217
MISSOURI RIVER nr Landusky (2)	APR-JUL	1169	1598	1880	48	2478	3358	3897
	APR-SEP	1832	2015	2330	51	2938	4030	4580
MISSOURI RIVER below Fort Peck (2)	APR-JUL	1245	1686	1870	47	2478	3373	4015
	APR-SEP	1563	1876	2150	48	2719	3797	4467
LAKE SAKAKAWEA Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	2130	3875	5060	51	6245	7990	9897
	APR-SEP	4311	4561	5740	51	6919	9077	11346

MISSOURI MAINSTEM RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of February

MISSOURI MAINSTEM RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - March 1, 2001

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
CANYON FERRY LAKE	2043.0	1461.0	1497.0	1540.0	HEADWATERS MAINSTEM	9	90	69
HELENA VALLEY	9.2	5.7	4.4	4.2	SMITH-JUDITH-MUSSELSHELL	13	83	65
LAKE HELENA	10.4	10.9	11.4	10.2	SUN-TETON-MARIAS	12	67	58
HAUSER & HELENA	61.9	63.1	64.2	61.0	MAINSTEM ab FT PECK RES	33	78	63
HOLTER LAKE	81.9	81.4	80.8	68.2	MILK RIVER BASIN	10	132	78
FORT PECK LAKE (MAF)	18.9	12.7	15.0	14.7	MISSOURI MAINSTEM BASIN	43	81	65

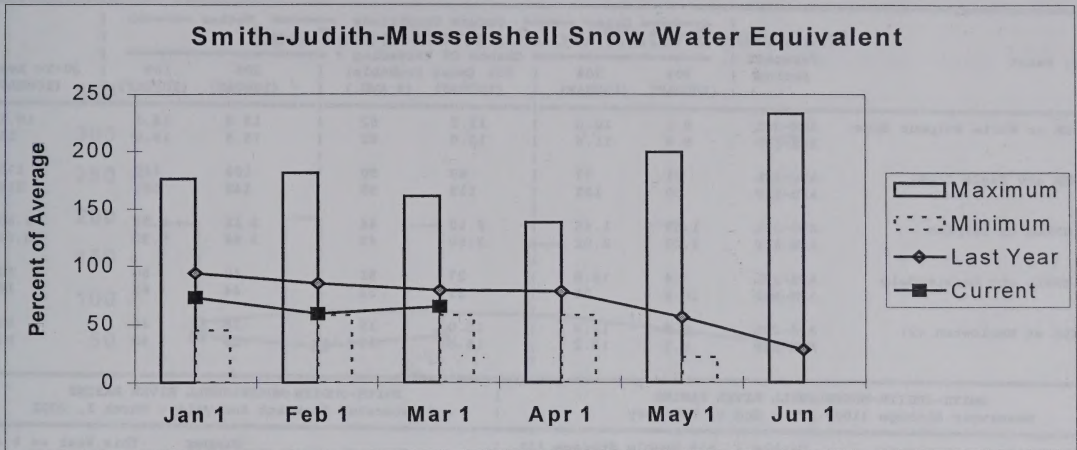
* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
 (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

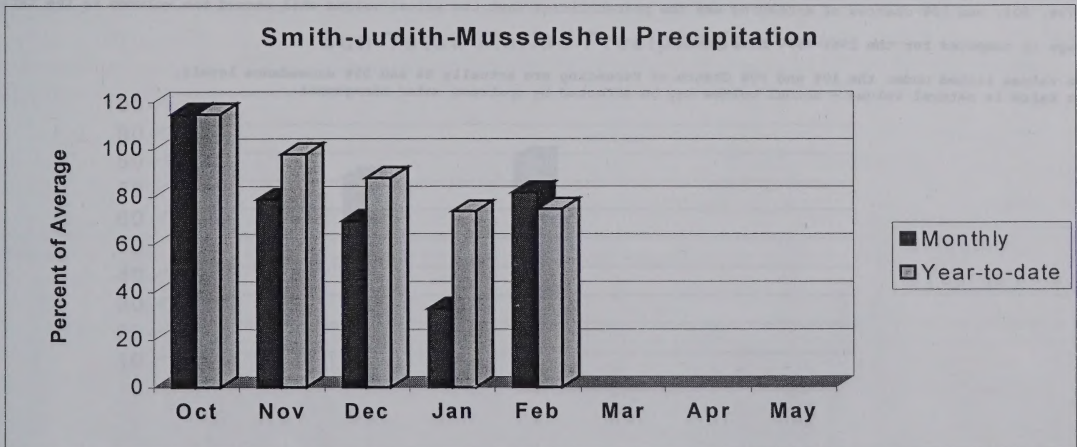
Smith-Judith-Musselshell River Basins

Snowpack conditions in the Smith-Judith-Musselshell River Basins were well below average and second lowest of record tied with 1973, 1981, and 1998. The lowest of record was in 1987. Snow water content in the Smith River Basin was 59 percent of average and 76 percent of last year; in the Judith River Basin was 67 percent of average and 82 percent of last year; and in the Musselshell Basin River was 58 percent of average and 87 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe in 1988; February maximum swe was in 1978 and minimum swe was in 1987; March maximum swe was in 1978 and minimum swe was in 1987; April maximum swe was in 1970 and minimum swe was in 1992; and May maximum swe was in 1970 and minimum swe was in 1987; and June maximum swe was in 1982 and minimum swe was in 1992. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain and valley precipitation during February in the Smith-Belts was 75 percent of average and 97 percent of last year; in the Judith was 79 percent of average and 93 percent of last year; and in the Musselshell was 122 percent of average and 103 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2000, was 75 percent of average and 94 percent of last year.



Smith River storage was 36 percent of average and 49 percent of last year; Bair storage was 38 percent of average and 80 percent of last year; Martinsdale storage was 21 percent of average and 22 percent of last year; and Deadman's Basin was 49 percent of average and 45 percent of last year.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -3.0 in the Smith River and -3.1 in the Musselshell River.

SMITH-JUDITH-MUSSELSHELL RIVER BASINS
Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2001

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<===== Drier =====		Future Conditions		===== Wetter =====>>		30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		90%	70%	50% (Most Probable)	Chance Of Exceeding *	30%	10%	
		(1000AF)	(1000AF)	(1000AF)	(% AVG.)	(1000AF)	(1000AF)	
SHEEP CREEK nr White Sulphur Spgs.	APR-JUL	8.1	10.0	11.2	62	13.2	16.1	18.1
	APR-SEP	9.4	11.6	13.0	62	15.3	18.6	21
SMITH RIVER abv Eagle Creek	APR-JUL	61	77	88	50	109	140	175
	APR-SEP	80	101	115	55	142	181	210
NF MUSSELSHELL nr Delpine	APR-JUL	1.01	1.68	2.10	44	3.11	4.59	4.80
	APR-SEP	1.23	2.02	2.50	45	3.64	5.33	5.60
SF MUSSELSHELL abv Martinsdale	APR-JUL	9.4	19.8	27	51	40	60	52
	APR-SEP	10.6	21	29	52	44	65	56
MUSSELSHELL at Harlowton (2)	APR-JUL	8.8	12.8	15.0	19	28	46	80
	APR-SEP	9.1	13.2	15.5	19	29	48	83

SMITH-JUDITH-MUSSELSHELL RIVER BASINS
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of February

SMITH-JUDITH-MUSSELSHELL RIVER BASINS
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - March 1, 2001

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
SMITH RIVER	10.6	2.4	4.9	6.7	SMITH	7	76	59
NEWLAN CREEK		NO REPORT			JUDITH	7	82	67
BAIR	7.0	1.6	2.0	4.2	MUSSELSHELL	5	87	58
MARTINSDALE	23.1	2.0	9.3	9.4	SMITH-JUDITH-MUSSELSHELL	13	83	65
DEADMAN'S BASIN	72.2	22.5	49.8	46.1				

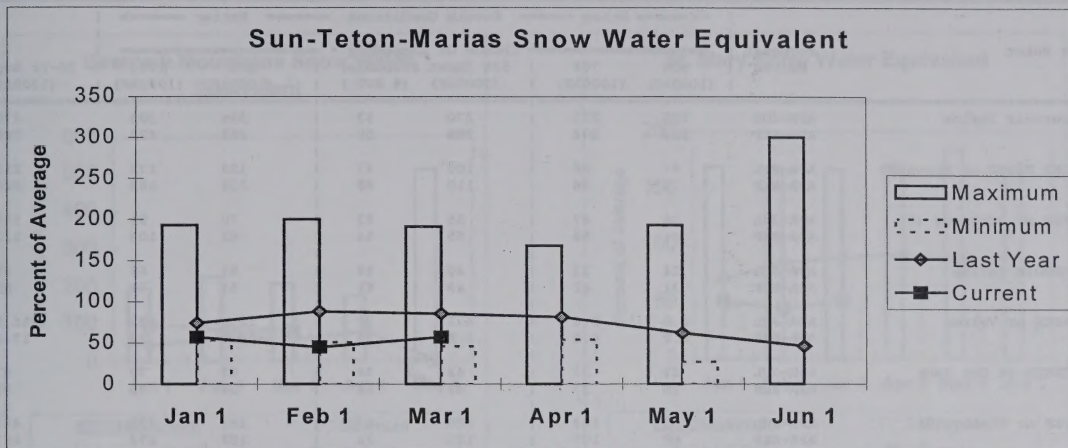
* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
 (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

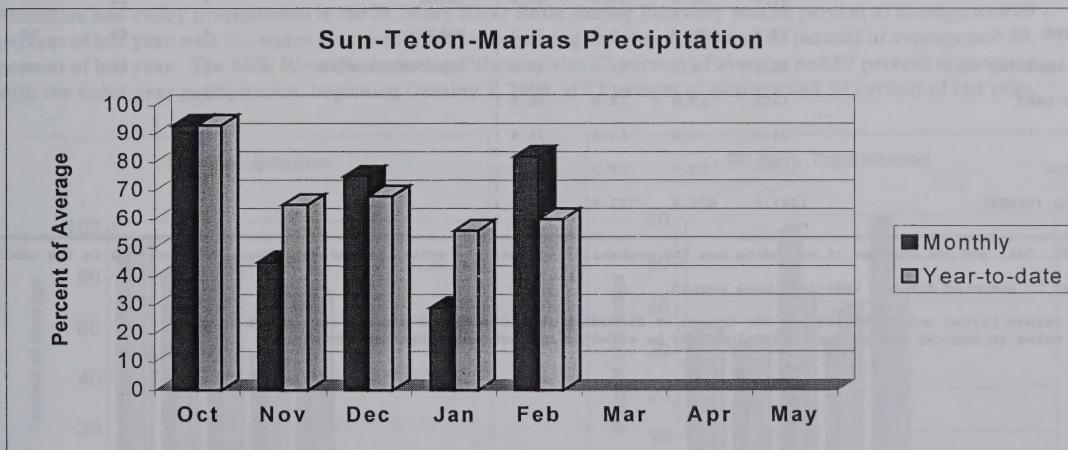
Sun-Teton-Marias River Basins

Snowpack conditions in the Sun-Teton-Marias River Basins were well below average and second lowest of record behind 1977 and 1984. Snow water content in the Sun River Basin was 62 percent of average and 68 percent of last year; in the Teton River Basin was 56 percent of average and 68 percent of last year; and in the Marias River Basin was 51 percent of average and 63 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1988; February maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; March maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1984; April maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1984; May maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; and June maximum was in 1982 and minimum swe was in 1992. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain and valley precipitation during February in the Sun was 95 percent of average and 89 percent of last year; in the Teton was 100 percent of average and 91 percent of last year; and in the Marias was 74 percent of average and 101 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2000, was 60 percent of average and 57 percent of last year.



Gibson storage was 46 percent of average and 48 percent of last year; Pishkun storage was 109 percent of average and 99 percent of last year; Willow Creek storage was 93 percent of average and 381 percent of last year; Lower Two Medicine Lake storage was 93 percent of average and 54 percent of last year; Four Horns Lake storage was 104 percent of average and 100 percent of last year; Swift storage was 34 percent of average and 41 percent of last year; Lake Frances storage was 30 percent of average and 83 percent of last year; and Lake Elwell (Tiber) storage was 119 percent of average and 89 percent of last year.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -3.0 in the Sun River; -3.1 in the Teton River; -3.1 in the Birch/Dupuyer Creeks; and -1.7 in the Marias River.

SUN-TETON-MARIAS RIVER BASINS
Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2001

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<===== Drier =====		Future Conditions		===== Wetter =====>>		30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		90%	70%	50% (Most Probable)	10%	30%	10%	
		(1000AF)	(1000AF)	(1000AF) (% AVG.)	(1000AF)	(1000AF)	(1000AF)	
GIBSON Reservoir Inflow	APR-JUL	196	239	270	57	316	383	478
	APR-SEP	226	274	305	58	352	422	526
TWO MEDICINE RIVER nr Browning	APR-JUL	67	86	100	47	129	172	215
	APR-SEP	75	96	110	48	139	183	228
BADGER CREEK nr Browning (2)	APR-JUL	36	47	55	53	70	91	104
	APR-SEP	44	56	65	54	81	103	120
SWIFT RESERVOIR Inflow	APR-JUL	24	33	40	59	51	68	68
	APR-SEP	31	42	49	61	61	78	80
DUPUYER CREEK nr Valier	APR-JUL	0.0	3.6	6.1	39	12.5	22	15.5
	APR-SEP	0.2	4.2	6.8	39	13.7	24	17.4
CUT BANK CREEK at Cut Bank	APR-JUL	29	37	42	48	53	70	87
	APR-SEP	29	37	43	45	56	75	96
MARIAS RIVER nr Shelby (2)	APR-JUL	80	103	120	27	182	273	447
	APR-SEP	88	107	125	26	187	278	487
TETON nr Dutton	APR-JUL	7.1	14.9	20	34	35	58	59
	APR-SEP	10.2	17.8	23	34	39	62	68

SUN-TETON-MARIAS RIVER BASINS					SUN-TETON-MARIAS RIVER BASINS			
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of February					Watershed Snowpack Analysis - March 1, 2001			
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
GIBSON	99.1	21.7	44.8	47.5	SUN	7	68	62
PISHKUN	32.0	19.2	19.3	17.6	TETON	4	68	56
WILLOW CREEK	32.2	20.2	5.3	21.7	MARIAS	4	66	52
LOWER TWO MEDICINE LAKE	11.9	6.4	11.9	6.9	SUN-TETON-MARIAS	13	68	60
FOUR HORNS LAKE	19.2	13.0	13.0	12.5				
SWIFT	30.0	5.6	13.6	16.4				
LAKE FRANCES	112.0	20.9	25.3	69.7				
LAKE ELWELL (TIBER)	1347.0	690.4	771.9	580.2				

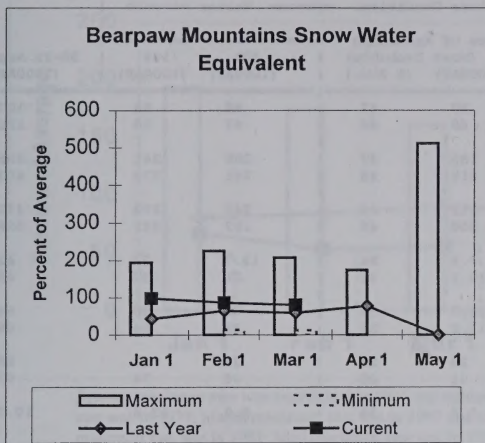
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The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
 (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

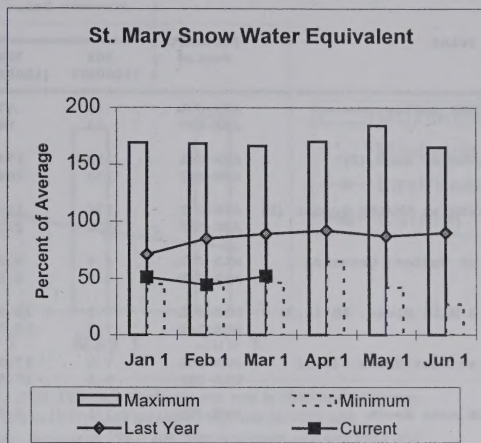
St. Mary and Milk River Basins

Snowpack conditions in the St. Mary and Milk River Basins were well below average. Snow water content in the Saint Mary River Basin was 52 percent of average and 59 percent of last year and the second lowest of record behind 1977. The Bearpaw Mountains were 73 percent of average and 114 percent of last year. The Cypress Hills in Canada were 81 percent of average and 150 percent of last year.

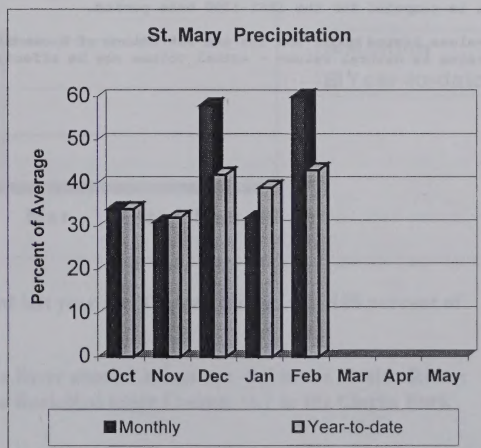
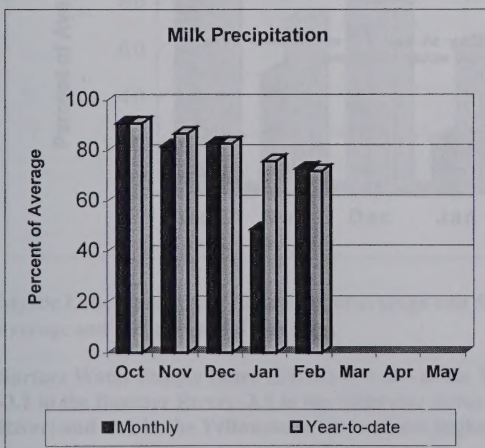


Bearpaw - January maximum swe was established in 1978 and minimum swe was in 1981; February maximum swe was 1978 and minimum was in 1973; March maximum swe was 1978 and minimum swe was 1981; April maximum swe was in 1975 and minimum swe was in 1983; May maximum swe was 1975 and the minimum has occurred in several years. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

St. Mary - January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1988; February maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; March maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1992; May maximum swe was in 1992 and minimum swe was in 1977; and June maximum swe was in 1991 and minimum swe was 1992. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.



Mountain and valley precipitation in the St. Mary River Basin during February was 60 percent of average and 80 percent of last year with the water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2000, at 43 percent of average and 39 percent of last year. The Milk River Basin during February was 73 percent of average and 97 percent of last year with the water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2000, at 72 percent of average and 90 percent of last year.



Lake Sherburne storage was 43 percent of average and 47 percent of last year; Fresno storage was 30 percent of average and 42 percent of last year; Beaver Creek storage was 110 percent of average and 79 percent of last year; and Nelson storage was 33 percent of average and 31 percent of last year.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -3.0 for the Milk River.

ST. MARY and MILK RIVER BASINS
Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2001

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<===== Drier =====		Future Conditions		===== Wetter =====>>		30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	Chance Of Exceeding * (% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
LAKE SHERBURNE Inflow	APR-JUL	44	47	50	47	56	64	107
	APR-SEP	53	56	60	48	67	76	125
ST. MARY RIVER nr Babb (2)	APR-JUL	158	174	185	47	208	241	395
	APR-SEP	185	204	215	46	241	279	463
ST. MARY RIVER at US/CAN Border (2)	APR-JUL	176	199	212	46	245	293	462
	APR-SEP	210	232	250	46	287	341	539
MILK RIVER at Western Crossing	MAR-JUL	4.6	8.0	9.9	24	19.7	32	42
	MAR-SEP	4.5	8.2	10.3	22	21	37	46
MILK RIVER @ Milk River, AB (2,3)	MAR-JUL	7.1	13.3	16.7	26	32	50	64
	MAR-SEP	7.2	13.5	17.2	25	33	54	69
MILK RIVER at East Cross. (2,3)	MAR-JUL	7.6	17.8	20	24	36	67	85
	MAR-SEP	8.4	17.9	21	23	36	74	93
BEAVER CREEK near Havre	MAR-JUL	1.1	3.7	5.5	53	8.8	13.6	10.3

ST. MARY and MILK RIVER BASINS
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of February

ST. MARY and MILK RIVER BASINS
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - March 1, 2001

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
LAKE SHERBURNE	64.3	11.4	24.0	26.3	ST. MARY	3	59	52
FRESNO	127.0	15.7	37.5	52.0	BEARPAW MOUNTAINS	4	114	73
BEAVER CREEK	3.5	2.2	2.8	2.0	CYPRESS HILLS, CANADA	6	150	81
NELSON	66.8	11.7	38.3	35.3	MILK RIVER BASIN	9	130	80
					ST. MARY & MILK BASINS	10	132	78

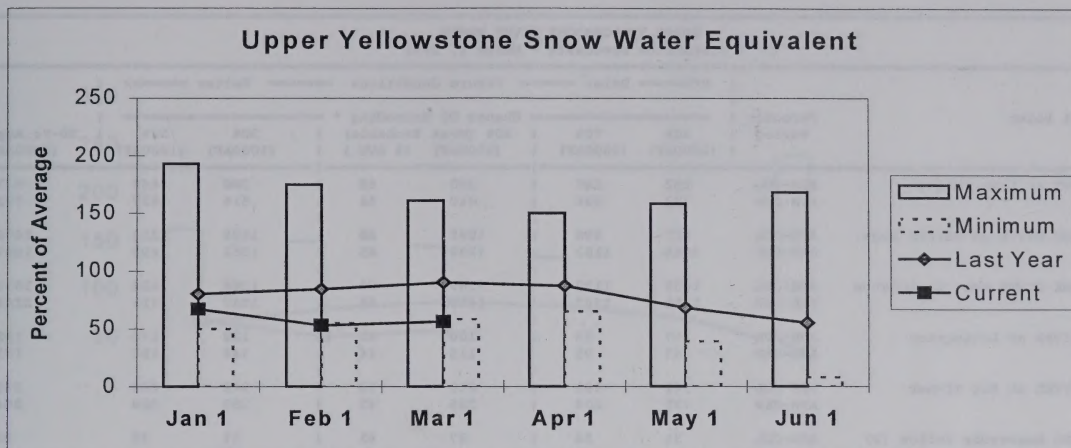
* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
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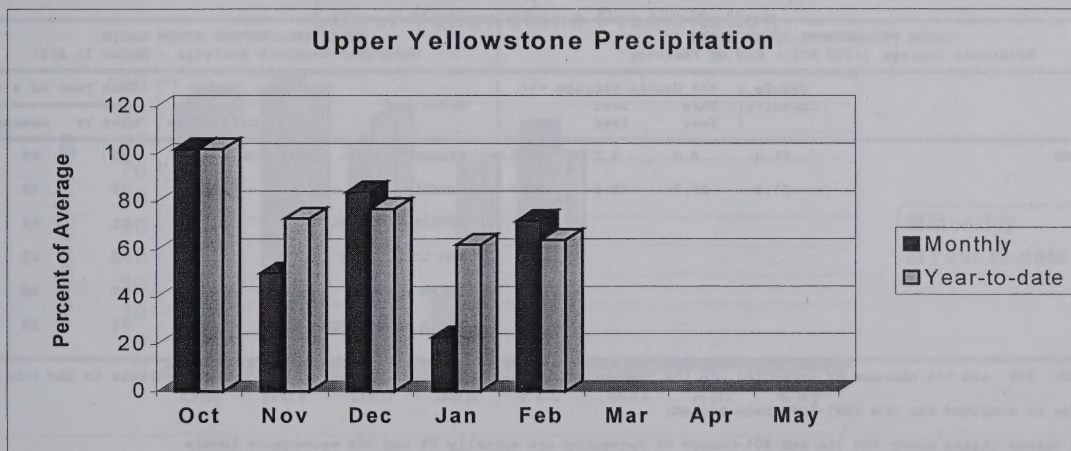
Upper Yellowstone River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Upper Yellowstone River Basin were well below average and tied with 1977 for the record low year. Snow water content was 56 percent of average and 63 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1988; February maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1977; March maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1971 and minimum swe was in 1981; May maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1987; and June maximum swe was 1982 and minimum swe was in 1987 and 1994. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain precipitation during February was 70 percent of average and 62 percent of last year. Valley precipitation during February was 88 percent of average and 49 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2000, was 64 percent of average and 74 percent of last year.



Mystic Lake storage was 52 percent of average and 58 percent of last year and Cooney storage was 128 percent of average and 109 percent of last year.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -2.8 in the Yellowstone River above Livingston; -2.7 in the Shields River; -3.1 in the Boulder River; -3.5 in the Stillwater River; -3.1 in the Rock/Red lodge Creeks; -3.7 in the Clarks Fork River; and -3.1 in the Yellowstone River above Bighorn River.

UPPER YELLOWSTONE RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2001

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<===== Drier ===== Future Conditions ===== Wetter =====>>						
				Chance Of Exceeding *				30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
YELLOWSTONE at Lake Outlet	APR-JUL	252	298	330	58	386	468	573
	APR-SEP	333	396	440	56	516	627	792
YELLOWSTONE RIVER at Corwin Spgs.	APR-JUL	917	998	1045	65	1129	1254	1609
	APR-SEP	1085	1182	1250	65	1351	1499	1937
YELLOWSTONE RIVER near Livingston	APR-JUL	1039	1132	1189	64	1284	1424	1855
	APR-SEP	1255	1367	1435	64	1547	1711	2241
SHIELDS RIVER nr Livingston	APR-JUL	57	83	100	62	128	170	162
	APR-SEP	63	95	115	64	148	196	179
BOULDER RIVER at Big Timber	APR-JUL	161	191	210	63	242	288	335
	APR-SEP	175	204	225	62	259	309	364
MYSTIC LAKE Reservoir Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	31	34	37	61	41	48	61
	APR-SEP	40	44	47	60	52	59	79
STILLWATER RIVER nr Absarokee (2)	APR-JUL	199	234	255	51	299	364	498
	APR-SEP	237	273	300	51	348	419	593
CLARKS FORK RIVER nr Belfry	APR-JUL	266	298	318	60	354	408	532
	APR-SEP	283	313	335	57	373	428	590
COONEY RESERVOIR Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	8.9	17.9	24	50	35	51	47
	APR-SEP	0.6	17.2	29	50	40	56	57
YELLOWSTONE RIVER at Billings (2)	APR-JUL	1824	1968	2255	63	2542	2965	3577
	APR-SEP	2274	2358	2650	63	2956	3285	4211

UPPER YELLOWSTONE RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of February

UPPER YELLOWSTONE RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - March 1, 2001

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***	This Year	Last Year	Avg	Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
		Year							
MYSTIC LAKE	21.0	3.0	5.2	5.8		YELLOWSTONE ab LIVINGSTON	18	63	59
COONEY	27.4	19.7	18.1	15.4		SHIELDS	5	79	63
						BOULDER-STILLWATER	4	61	56
						RED LODGE-ROCK CREEK	6	62	47
						CLARK'S FORK	7	57	55
						UPPER YELLOWSTONE BASIN	36	64	58

* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

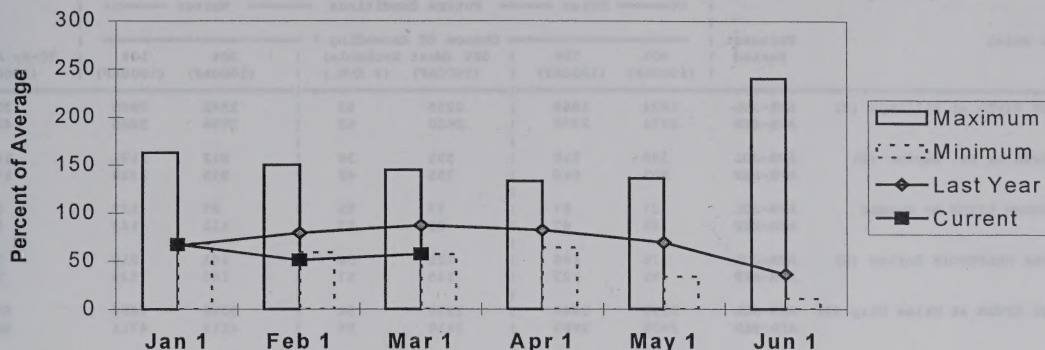
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 (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

Lower Yellowstone River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Lower Yellowstone River Basin, in Wyoming, were well below average and tied with the record low years of 1977 and 1981. Snow water content was 57 percent of average and 69 percent of last year.

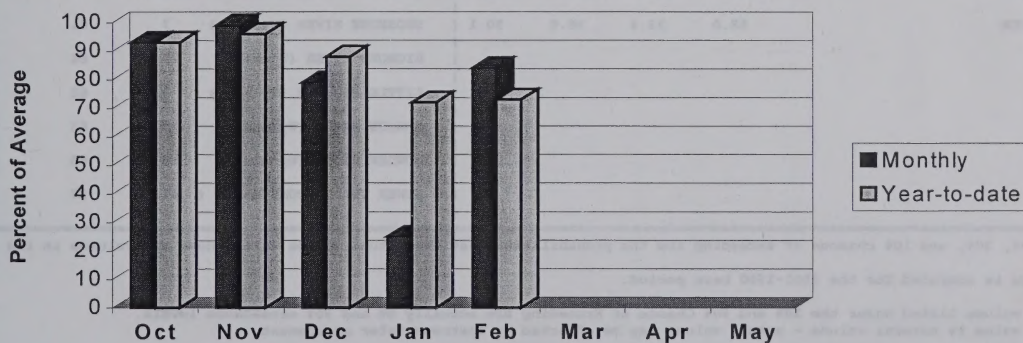
Lower Yellowstone Snow Water Equivalent



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1981; February maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1981; March maximum swe was in 1986 and minimum swe was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1986 and minimum swe was in 1981; May maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1981; and June maximum swe was in 1995 and minimum swe was in 1994. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain and valley precipitation during February was 84 percent of average and 66 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2000, was 73 percent of average and 84 percent of last year.

Lower Yellowstone Precipitation



Bighorn Lake storage was 104 percent of average and 90 percent of last year and Tongue River storage was 111 percent of average and 91 percent of last year.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -2.4 in the Bighorn River below Bighorn Lake; -2.5 in the Little Bighorn River; -2.8 in the Yellowstone River below Bighorn River; -2.8 in the Tongue River; and -3.5 in the Powder River.

LOWER YELLOWSTONE RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2001

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<===== Drier =====		Future Conditions		===== Wetter =====>>		30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		90%	70%	Chance Of Exceeding *		30%	10%	
		(1000AF)	(1000AF)	50% (Most Probable)	(% AVG.)	(1000AF)	(1000AF)	
YELLOWSTONE RIVER at Billings (2)	APR-JUL	1824	1968	2255	63	2542	2965	3577
	APR-SEP	2274	2358	2650	63	2956	3285	4211
BIGHORN RIVER nr St. Xavier (2)	APR-JUL	395	510	595	36	812	1131	1645
	APR-SEP	502	646	755	42	995	1348	1794
LITTLE BIGHORN RIVER nr Hardin	APR-JUL	27	57	77	55	97	127	140
	APR-SEP	35	67	89	57	111	143	157
TONGUE RIVER RESERVOIR Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	76	106	125	54	161	215	230
	APR-SEP	92	123	145	57	183	239	256
YELLOWSTONE RIVER at Miles City (2)	APR-JUL	2281	2444	2935	54	3562	4486	5431
	APR-SEP	2638	2889	3410	54	4119	4711	6281
POWDER RIVER at Moorehead	APR-JUL	27	42	53	25	94	155	211
	APR-SEP	35	53	65	28	107	169	232
POWDER RIVER near Locate	APR-JUL	35	45	53	21	88	140	252
	APR-SEP	39	55	66	24	111	177	276
YELLOWSTONE RIVER nr Sidney (2)	APR-JUL	2252	2489	3020	51	3748	4819	5925
	APR-SEP	2589	2862	3480	51	4375	5042	6814

LOWER YELLOWSTONE RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of February

LOWER YELLOWSTONE RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - March 1, 2001

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
BIGHORN LAKE	1356.0	842.4	935.3	810.4	WIND RIVER (Wyoming)	19	76	55
TONGUE RIVER	68.0	33.4	36.6	30.1	SHOSHONE RIVER (Wyoming)	7	61	53
					BIGHORN RIVER (Wyoming)	21	64	55
					LITTLE BIGHORN (Wyoming)	3	62	60
					TONGUE RIVER (Wyoming)	9	65	59
					POWDER RIVER (Wyoming)	9	65	55
					LOWER YELLOWSTONE BASIN (	47	67	55

* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
 (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.



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Montana
Basin Outlook Report
Natural Resources Conservation Service
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